

DEC 22 1945

YARDS
-Mo. Tol
945 190
538 141
791 40
479 350
647 205

437 22
379 3
382 5
125 23

429 98
813 52
743 538
624 156

MEATS
New York
Oct. 16, 1944

21.50-22.2
20.50-21.2
18.50-19.2
21.50-22.2
20.50-21.2
26.00-26.3
24.50-25.2
13.25-14.2
12.00-12.2
25.25-26.2

RICES
Oct. 16
1944

17.00-18.2
14.75-17.2
11.00-15.2
14.50-16.2
12.00-13.2
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AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Ina Rankin, Librarian,
School of Forestry &
University of Mich.
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN



TIME OUT IN TEXAS

THE NATIONAL LIVESTOCK MONTHLY

DECEMBER 1945

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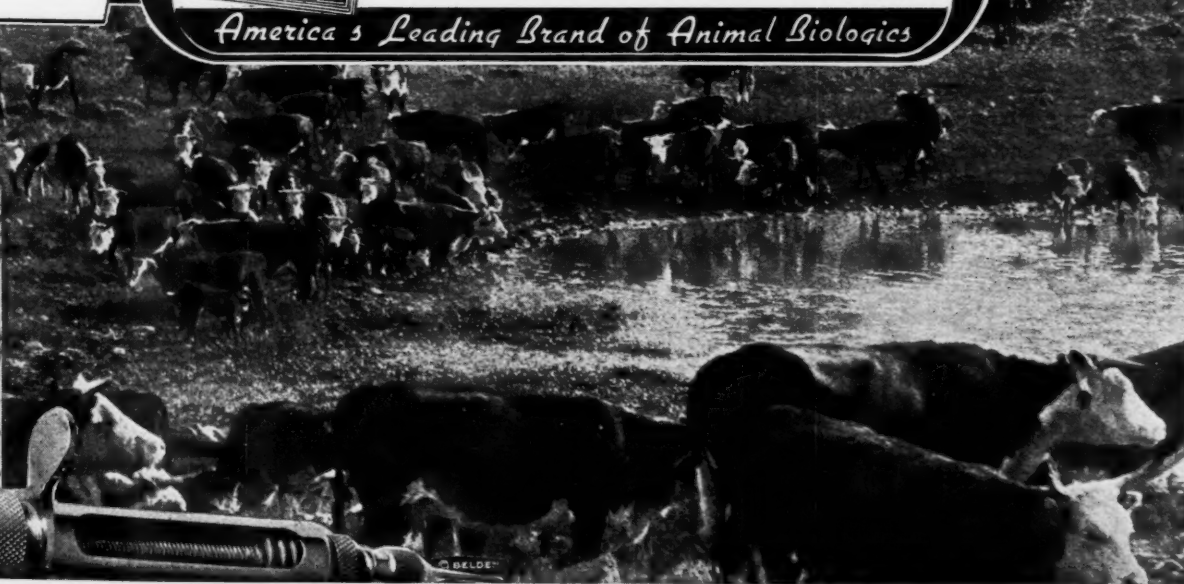
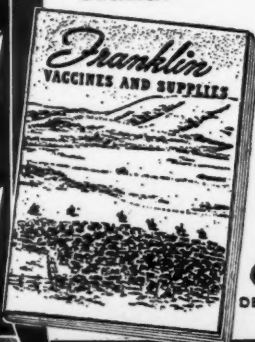
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abortion in cattle. Unsur-
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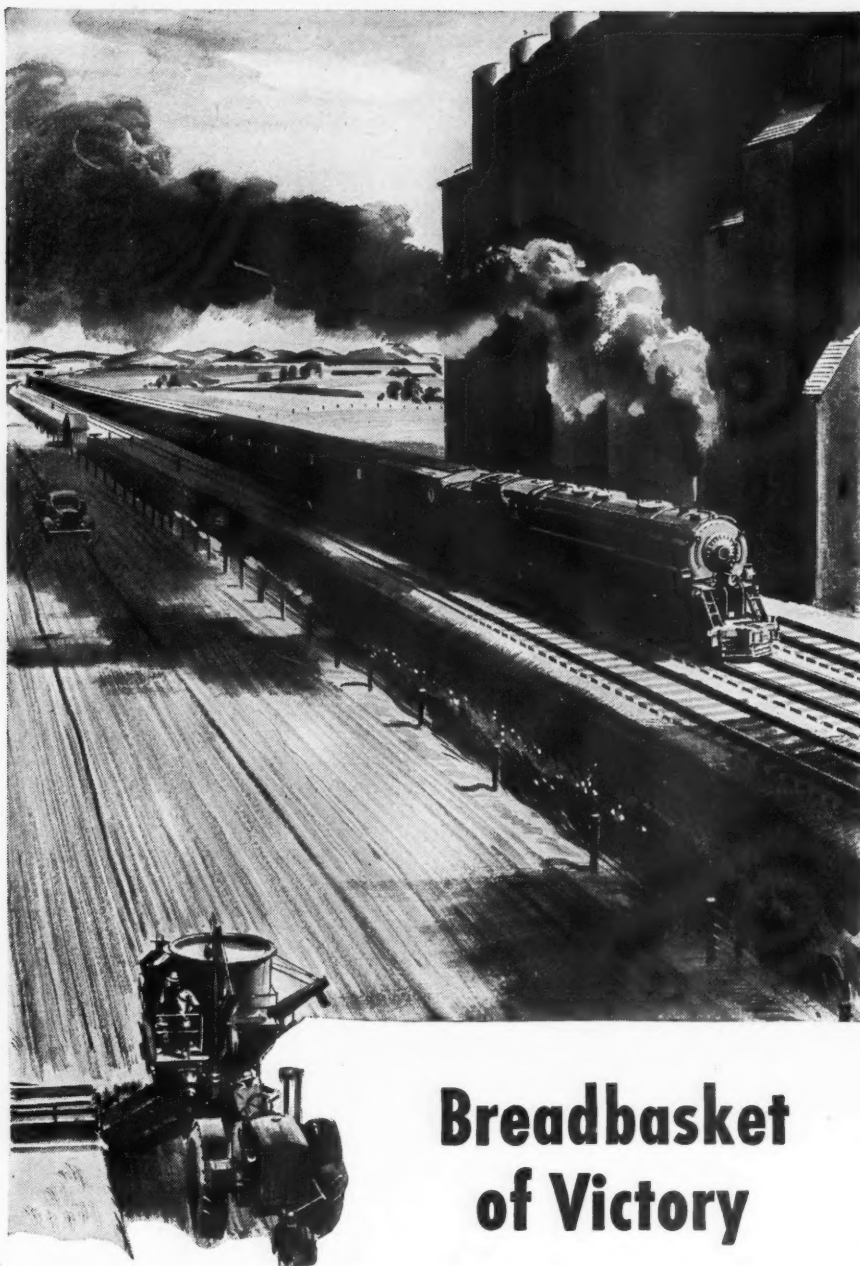
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Poultry. See free catalog.





Breadbasket of Victory

Railroads carried more than 1,500,000 carloads of grain and grain products during the first eight months of 1945—more than ever before in a similar period.

And this is only part of what the railroads have done to help American agriculture accomplish its stupendous task in the feeding of American people and their allies.

It was done under the handicaps and restrictions of war. It was done while unprecedented numbers of troops and quantities of war freight were being handled.

Now with peace and the chance to get long-denied material for building new locomotives and new freight cars to replace equipment worn by war service, railroads look forward to the time when they can serve you better than ever before—but with the same responsibility and faithfulness upon which America has learned, both in war and in peace, that it can rely.

**LET'S FINISH THE JOB
BUY VICTORY BONDS**

AMERICAN RAILROADS
—LOOKING AHEAD



GOODWILL NEEDED

Atomic tolerance is the key to world peace in its broadest meaning, and therefore, the important question now is how to share this atom shattering secret without endangering the life span of humanity on earth. I suggest that a United Nations capital be erected on a suitable virgin tract of land somewhere near the center of the United States. This monument, dedicated to international good will, could largely be paid for by subscriptions from all the peoples of the world. The capital should be run insofar as possible, by atomic energy, with a large international scientific organization constantly at work here on new scientific advances. Any new and revolutionary discoveries could never become the monopoly for evil of any one group or nation if proper policing is maintained. With the trend toward a world-wide expanding economy, national boundaries will eventually become national tradition.—ODIN G. BUELL, Buellton, Calif.

CONCERNED OVER SUBSIDIES

We are having a touch of winter up here (Nov. 11). Feed however is plentiful and we could weather a tough one pretty well. There is a lot of cattle moving up here and prices seem to remain fairly steady, but there is some concern as to just what the removal of subsidies will do to prices. Some stockmen are advocating the sharing of subsidy money with consumers. I cannot agree with this. Livestock prices were rolled back \$2 per cwt. and the subsidy was supposed to offset the rollback. Just why should stockmen share with the consumer any price reduction in view of the fact that it is proposed to advance the wage scale of

(Continued on Page 44)

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Call for Convention

TO MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION, AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS AND STOCKMEN GENERALLY:

Call is hereby issued for the 49th annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association to be held Jan. 10, 11 and 12, 1946, in Denver, Colo., with headquarters at the Shirley-Savoy Hotel.

AFTER four wartime meetings the 49th annual convention of the association will meet under decidedly more optimistic conditions, although the inconveniences of travel and the scarcity of hotel accommodations will serve as reminders that while the war is over, we are by no means as yet back to anything like normal conditions. This office will make every effort to secure accommodations for all those who desire to attend the convention but we are almost helpless so far as securing accommodations into stockshow week immediately following is concerned, because of the unprecedented demand which has all the hotels here swamped. In the following brief paragraphs I will enumerate some of the problems which will be uppermost in the minds of convention delegates and will be discussed and acted upon by the several committees during the course of the meeting.

PRICE CONTROL

The question of continuing price control beyond the scheduled expiration of the OPA on June 30, 1946, will be of primary importance. OPA is bending its efforts to show that unless price controls are continued there will almost certainly be a dangerous degree of inflation. It is setting the stage to bring consumer pressure to bear on the subject by removing price controls on certain limited products and will point to the resultant price raises as evidence of the need for continued control. For instance, the price control was recently lifted from certain citrus fruits, the date being set a few weeks in advance of the maturing of the current crop, reported to be a heavy one. Immediately wholesale prices jumped astonishingly and while it was undoubtedly poor judgment on the part of the wholesalers to take such action, doubtless the time of the price removal was designed to bring just that result. There have been one or two other similar instances. It should be remembered that not merely the abolishment of OPA will do the trick. It is quite possible that the administration will welcome the end of that agency, unpopular as it is throughout the country, but will seek to continue some of its controls, transferring them to permanent governmental agencies.

The removal of meat rationing, announced the day that this call for convention is being written, indicates that the

emergency is over so far as meat supplies are concerned. That being true, the necessity for price controls should also be over and it is of prominent importance that price controls should be ended, if not earlier, then at least concurrently with the removal of subsidies, which likewise is scheduled to take place in the near future.

SUBSIDIES

From the imposition of the first consumer beef subsidy in June, 1943, the industry has strenuously opposed this complication in the process of producing, feeding and marketing livestock. It was our belief that there was no occasion, with consumers' income at an all-time record high, to subsidize the consumer and thus to place the producers and feeders in an unsound economic position. Since the advent of the original \$1.10 subsidy straight across the board on all grades of beef numerous additions have been made to it—all but one for the purpose of complying with the requirements of the price control act and giving the processor the necessary margin of profit on which to operate. At the present time the total subsidies paid to the packers on the good and choice grades of beef are \$2.95 and \$3 per 100 pounds respectively. In addition there was recently added a 50-cents-per-hundred subsidy paid direct to the feeder on choice cattle which complied with certain price and weight regulations.

It has already been indicated by spokesmen for the administration that these subsidies will be discontinued not later than June 30, 1946. Secretary Anderson has assured this office that at least six months' notice will be given us of the actual removal date of these beef subsidies and so far no formal notice to that effect has been received. The industry is wholeheartedly desirous of getting rid of them at the earliest possible date. It has repeatedly recommended that they should be abolished and price ceilings raised to compensate therefor. In fairness to the industry, either this must be done or price control abandoned concurrently with the abolishment of the subsidy program as suggested above. Otherwise, the end of the subsidy program would be certain to have a disastrous effect upon the whole price structure. Only under a free price economy is there any reasonable hope that the adjustment can be made without entailing serious loss.

POST-WAR FOREIGN TRADE

We have repeatedly called attention to the danger which we face under the current program for increasing foreign trade through the process of lowering (Please turn to Page 32)

FOREST SERVICE POLICY

CUT . . . cut . . . cut. The foresters are wielding the axe again, but this time it isn't woodsmen felling trees out in the forests—it is the experts at Washington cutting the heart out of grazing permits under the guise of "protection" prior to the issuance of the new 10-year permits in 1946.

At the time the present 10-year permits were issued some cuts were made for protection and it was assumed that, following a long process of cuts for distribution and protection, forest permits had finally reached a degree of stability long the goal of permittees and absolutely necessary to the satisfactory and economical operation of many livestock units. The policy of distribution, long the main cause of irritation between permittees and the Forest Service, likewise was practically stopped some years ago, the Forest Service itself apparently recognizing that a continuation of this policy meant only continued reductions below its own standard for a minimum economic unit; and the livestock industry breathed easier, thinking that the worst was over.

The industry, however, was due for a rude awakening, as from all parts of the country now come reports of cuts ostensibly for protection, ranging as high as 60 per cent or even

more, while at the same time the Forest Service has started anew on a policy of further cuts for distribution, with issuance of a tentative regulation which would subject permits above the upper limits to further cuts. Inasmuch as these upper limits are established at will by the Forest Service itself, it is at once apparent that the final issuance of a regulation to this end would mean that the policy of redistribution could be extended down through a majority of permits through the simple process of lowering the upper limit.

Seeking to justify the numerous cuts for protection—many of them ruinous to units which have operated on the forests since the beginning more than 40 years ago—the Forest Service claims that it is necessary because of the fact that livestock numbers on the forests were increased during the first World War. That means that they are going back 27 years in seeking to find a satisfactory excuse for continued cuts for protection. In doing so they completely ignore the fact that during this period, while livestock numbers have been steadily reduced, numbers of game in the forests have been allowed just as steadily to increase; and the Forest Service has deliberately avoided its responsibility to (Please turn to Page 33)

The Public Lands Question

THE PUBLIC LAND POLICY OF the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and the position of users of the lands in the West were voiced at a conference in Denver in mid-November called by the chamber.

The chamber believes in the principle that all rights not specifically granted to the federal government are reserved to the states and objects to increasing federal encroachment on that principle; it declares that the government should liquidate surplus holdings not needed for recognized and legally established activities; it urges that "from present national forests there should be excluded large areas not properly classed as forest lands, in order that they may be devoted to uses for which they are best adapted, usually grazing;" it believes establishment of national parks and monuments should be exclusively in the hands of Congress, and extension of parks should be made only with the consent of states concerned; it encourages the principle of participation by local residents in administration of grazing districts.

Stockmen, mining men, foresters and others expressed their views to the chamber representatives. J. Elmer Brock, former president of the American National Live Stock Association, presented the following statement to the group:

Greatest Natural Resource

"Grazing lands constitute the greatest permanent natural resource of the 11 public land states. Their highest use is vitally essential, both sectionally and nationally. We urge an immediate free and unbiased study by Congress of all public lands now held by the federal government and not provided for in the Constitution of the United States, and the orderly disposal of all of these lands which are valuable chiefly for grazing and agriculture. All grazing lands now held by the federal government are, by virtue of the privilege of selection of entry, dependent for their highest use on privately owned lands. In order to provide the highest use of these lands they should be disposed of in an orderly manner and attached to the lands upon which they are dependent for their highest use.

"Pending final disposition, these lands should be administered through local autonomy provided by statute, the federal government acting only on matters of national welfare.

"All states should be adequately recompensed by the federal government in lieu of taxes for all lands held which are not provided for in Article 1, Section 8, Paragraph 17 of the Constitution of the United States."

A. D. Brownfield, president of the American National, made the following statement:

"Opinions differ among the users

throughout the eleven western states as to the methods of control of the Taylor grazing lands by the Department of the Interior and the national forests by the Department of Agriculture. We are concerned primarily with grazing land. Time does not permit a discussion, perhaps, of the various rules and regulations under which grazing is permitted on these federal lands, and I take it you are more interested in the ultimate disposition of these lands.

"I wish to emphasize that the views I may express to you are my personal views and not that of the American National Live Stock Association. I am not prepared to furnish you at this time with any recent resolutions passed by our association on this subject. I can subscribe to the fundamental principles set forth in the statement prepared by Mr. Brock.

"Whether or not all federal lands should be placed under one department is a debatable question. I do think all single-use lands—that is, all lands whose higher use is grazing—should be placed under one department. I think the higher use should be stipulated, protected and perpetuated by federal statute.

What Most Users Want

"On the question of final disposition of the federal lands, I am quite sure the majority of the present users in the various states would like to see them pass into state and private ownership. Perhaps the multiple-use lands—that is, those more suitable to watershed protection, timber recreation, wildlife, etc.—would best remain under the control of the federal government for the time being.

"You ask concerning the reservation of the minerals if and when the government parts with the title to these lands. In order to get them into state and private ownership these minerals could well be reserved to the government and only the surface rights be transferred.

"There is a movement gaining momentum which may cause the Congress to consider legislation that would permit homesteading by the veterans of World War II. We do not want to prevent the soldier from securing land if he wants it, but it must be remembered that the history of homesteading on the western submarginal lands is replete with failures, bankruptcies and

destroyed soil. Millions of dollars have been spent by the government to reclaim and rehabilitate these lands.

"The passage of the Taylor act put a stop to promiscuous homesteading. Under the administration of this act districts have been set up which are more or less reservations for those in the livestock business at that time. We are informed that Congress did not intend to put more people into the livestock business but that its chief aim was to stop injury to the soil and stabilize the livestock industry dependent upon the lands. This is as it should be. If once again Congress is to consider land bonuses to returning veterans, there are three factors that should be kept in mind and provided for: First, the protection to the soil so that its productivity will not be destroyed for future generations; second, the economy of the present users should be well safeguarded, and, third, the time and hard-earned savings of the veteran recipient should be more carefully considered and protected than in the past.

"Properly to protect these three factors, any legislation that may be proposed should provide ample funds on long-time low interest; after transfers of commensurate property have been made and the right amount of Taylor lands allotted under the federal range code, the veteran purchaser should receive a patent to several thousand acres of federal land within his own allotment by placing a certain amount of permanent improvements upon the land to enhance its value for livestock grazing, to protect the soil from abuse by overgrazing and allow the present user and potential seller a way to safeguard the economy of his own allotment.

"If the government is ultimately induced to sell these lands or cede them to the respective states, the rights and privileges of the users should be protected, and any lease or purchase price should be based on the average annual productivity of each and every 640-acre tract."

Woolman Speaks

Norman Winder of Craig, Colo., president of the National Wool Growers Association, said that the ultimate goal should be private ownership of public lands. He objected to transfer of the lands to the states directly, since the states have evidenced no eagerness to

(Continued on Page 30)

MAKE YOUR CONVENTION PLANS NOW

OFFICIAL call for the 49th annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association is published this month. This is another notice to remind you that travel is still heavy and hotel reservations hard to get, so that those who are planning to attend the convention should make their reservations immediately and insist upon written confirmation. Be sure to specify the exact length of your stay.

TEXAS CATTLE INDUSTRY THROUGH THE YEARS



Trailing them in. (Evelyn Boyd, Amarillo Globe-News photo)

By Herbert O. Brayer
Director, Western Range Cattle Industry Study

PART II

DESPITE THE CATASTROPHE OF the Civil War and its disastrous effects upon the Texas cattle industry some efforts were made to maintain the trade which had been developed during the preceding decade. A considerable number of longhorns were trailed to New Orleans where the blockaded Southerners eagerly paid from \$40 to \$60 a head. The precarious food situation plus recognition of the needs of the Texas stock raisers soon led to modification of the Confederate draft act so as to exempt from military service "one male citizen for every 500 head of cattle." Texas cattle were smuggled through the Union blockade to the hard pressed southern forces across the Mississippi until increased vigilance and counteraction practically ended the trade.

The smuggling of cattle into Kansas became a popular occupation for a period during the struggle, but by far the most important activity in this sector was the mass stealing of Texas cattle and their disposal in Kansas. One authority estimated that more than 300,000 head of Texas-owned cattle were stolen from the Indian Territory ranges from 1862 to 1865. This nefarious traffic reached alarming proportions and involved a number of influential political figures, including the mayor of Leavenworth. Such conditions, however, were only indicative of the general depressed and chaotic condition of the cattle industry in

Texas during the war period.

With the end of the war Texas stockmen undertook to reorganize their herds and to re-open their trade with the beef-hungry northern markets. Chaotic internal conditions, with hundreds of thousands of unbranded and untended cattle wandering at will (there were some 3,500,000 head recorded by the census in 1860) prevented an immediate return to pre-war efficiency. Opportunists and lawless elements seized vast numbers of stock without consideration for legitimate stockmen. The era of sanguinary cattle wars and organized rustling had begun in Texas.

During this transition period in which the cattle industry emerged from the destruction of the Civil War to the greater prosperity of the latter 70's and ultimate boom and inflation of the early 80's, Texas changed from an open range state to one of vast privately owned and fenced ranges. Up to 1875, stockmen freely utilized the vast area of state lands, which, though open to location, were considered by the ranchers to be their own private preserves. Some non-resident owners held valuable and extensive lands, but these were relatively unimportant when contrasted with the millions of acres of uncontested range land. By 1875, however, the stock raisers were alarmed by the threat posed by the wave of homesteaders and the so-called "foreign" corporations who were rapidly en-

croaching on the traditional ranges. The rush to purchase the state public lands now began in earnest. Texas land laws and policies contributed to the breaking up of the ranges. The XIT owners received 3,050,000 acres of state lands in return for construction of the state capitol building. Range disputes became frequent, with the decision all too frequently being left to the positive, though not always permanent, decisions of "Judge Colt."

Outstanding characteristic of the Texas cattle industry in the period following the end of the rebellion were the "long drives" which carried Texas cattle to new as well as to the ante bellum markets throughout the Midwest and West. Five major factors contributed to this unprecedented extension and expansion of the cattle trade: first, the high price of beef in the North; second, the vast westward emigration which set in immediately following the war; third, the construction of railroads across the plains; fourth, the influx of capital and the development of ranching throughout the newly opened West, and, fifth, the circumstances attendant upon the outbreak of Texas fever and its spread throughout those areas covered by the trail herds.

Once again annual drives of thousands of head of Texas cattle made their way across Kansas and Missouri to markets in Chicago and St. Louis. During the



In the feedlot of the Arno Link farm, Guadalupe County, Tex. (A. & M. photo)

70's, not only did these markets expand but new and important western markets were developed. Chicago in 1870 received an estimated 530,000 head of Texas stock, in 1875 almost 1,000,000 and in 1880 approximately 1,500,000 head. St. Louis increased its annual receipts of Lone Star State cattle from some 200,000 at the beginning of the 70's to 424,000 in 1880. Newly founded Kansas City also became an important cattle market during the 70's. Prices fluctuated widely during this transition era. Immediately following the Civil War the scarcity of meat in the North brought about a sharp price rise which was followed by a decline during the depression years from 1871-74, when the price fell below \$2 per hundredweight. Prices grew much steadier in 1875 and distinctly improved after 1880.

An important factor in the rapid growth of the Texas trade was the opening and settlement of vast areas in western Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona. Hundreds of thousands of Texas longhorns were annually trailed north and west and sold to the newly founded ranches in these territories and states. From 1866 to 1885 millions of Texas cattle were trailed to the market in herds of from 500 to 3,000. Cox gives the following figures for the drives in this period:

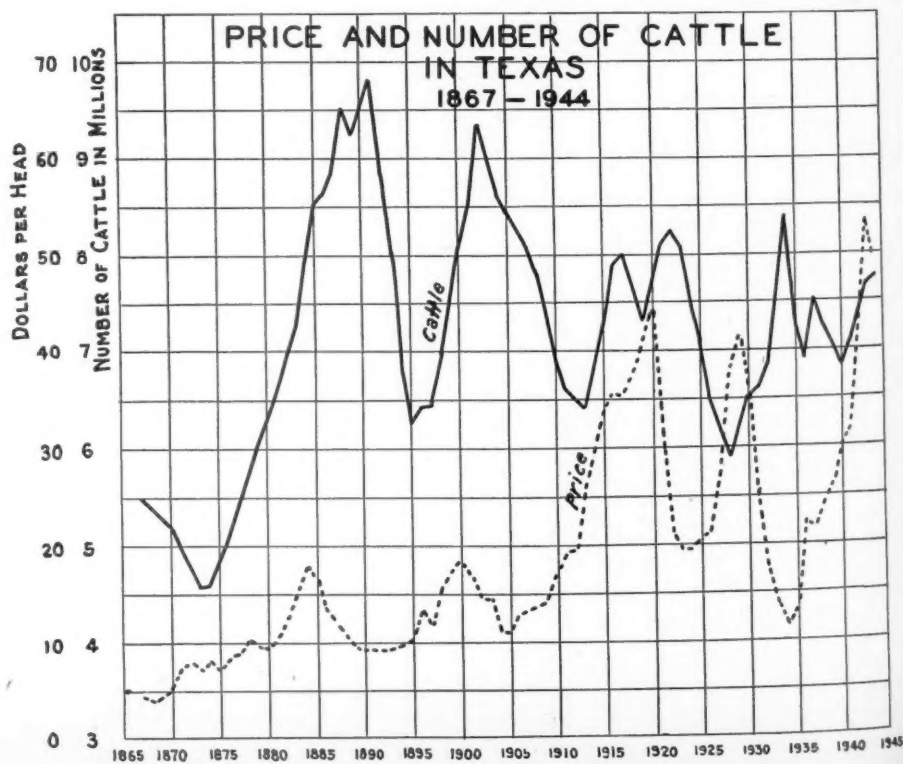
1866	260,000	1876	321,928
1867	35,000	1877	201,000
1868	75,000	1878	265,649
1869	350,000	1879	250,927
1870	350,000	1880	394,784
1871	600,000	1881	250,000
1872	350,000	1882	250,000
1873	404,000	1883	250,000
1874	166,000	1884	400,000
1875	151,618	1885	350,000

The construction and extension of railroads west of the Mississippi gave further impetus to the trade. New boom towns and construction towns along the lines consumed large quantities of meat. The railroads, especially the Kansas Pa-

cific and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, soon recognized the importance of the Texas cattle traffic. Stockyards and shipping pens were constructed at convenient points along the right of way, and, as the various roads entered into the competition, special inducements were offered to Texas stockmen. Abilene, starting in 1867, became the first of the great railroad shipping points along the Kansas Pacific. Such men of foresight as Joseph McCoy were quick to take advantage of the situation. In its first year Abilene received 35,000 head of Texas longhorns; in 1868 some 75,000 were received and sold to speculators in Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Illinois,

and to ranchers in Utah, Colorado, Wyoming and Montana. The Texas drovers failed to recognize the limitations of the Abilene trade and soon had glutted the market to such an extent that by 1871 some 300,000 unsold steers were ranging on the short grass surrounding that raucous community. A severe winter resulted in the death of many thousands of head of stock and financial ruin to the owners. Newton, Kans., became an important shipping center for the Texans after completion of the Santa Fe to that point in 1871. Wichita and Great Bend followed in 1872. In 1875, as the result of new restrictive measures taken against Texas cattle by Kansas, Dodge City became the chief shipping point for the drovers. Railroad rate wars and open competition between the shipping centers competing for the Texas trade added much to the color and profits of the trade, but also, unfortunately, frequently contributed to the reoccurring periods of unrest and depression.

Splenic, Texas or "Spanish" fever played an important role in the development of the Texas cattle industry. Previous to the Civil War outbreaks of a mysterious and frequently fatal malady occurred among local cattle in widely scattered areas through which Texas trail herds had passed en route to northern markets. Kansas, Missouri and Illinois farmers were quick to link this new misfortune with the annual longhorn "invasion" from Texas, and to demand protection by local and state authorities. Drovers sought to avoid angry groups of farmers bent on preventing the passage of trail herds by taking more westerly trails. Agitation at times forced the temporary abandonment of the drives.



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After the war the situation became rapidly worse. It was determined that the disease was caused by spores dropped by the strangely immune Texas stock as they were being driven north. The situation became critical. Open clashes between the drovers and local growers resulted in demands for the enactment of quarantine legislation.

In 1867 the Kansas legislature enacted a measure establishing a quarantine line at the sixth principal meridian. Texas trail stock were banned east of this line thereby placing the Abilene market "out of bounds." In its place Wellington, Wichita and Newton were developed as prominent shipping points in Kansas for the Texas herds. The following years brought repeated revisions of the Kansas quarantine statute—revisions which gradually pushed the Texas trail herds farther and farther westward, excluding them from an ever greater portion of the state. In 1872 the line was redrawn, forcing the drovers to use Ellsworth as their principal shipping center. Other Kansas counties were included within the quarantined area in 1876, resulting in the closing of Wichita and Ellsworth as shipping points for "through" cattle. Medicine Lodge, Caldwell and Dodge City now became the leading "cattle towns."

The fever continued to ravage unprotected areas and new inspection, quarantine and shipping regulations were imposed in various states and territories. Kansas continued to push the quarantine line farther and farther west until even Dodge City was closed to the Texas drovers "and the Texas travel was practically pushed out of Kansas." An 1885 law prohibited the driving of Texas cattle anywhere in the state during the period from Mar. 1 to Dec. 1 (when the disease was particularly virulent). England and Germany banned the importation of Texas stock from any area. Montana, Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico enacted quarantine laws, created cattle sanitary boards and provided for the strict inspection of all Texas stock.

Texas stockmen fought valiantly to preserve their markets. Serious efforts were made to eradicate the disease. In order to maintain their northern markets the Texas stockmen devised a number of schemes but none more bizarre than that of the National Cattle Trail. On Jan. 17, 1885, acting upon a suggestion made at a national stock growers meeting in 1884, Representative James F. Miller of the Lone Star State introduced a bill in Congress to establish a quarantined livestock trail six miles wide through the Indian Territory to the southwestern corner of Kansas, and thence over unappropriated public lands in eastern Colorado to Nebraska, Dakota, Wyoming and Montana. The measure ran into political opposition as well as dissension among northern and southern stockmen. With the coming of rapid and cheap transportation through the extension of rail-



In the Amarillo country (Amarillo Globe-News photo)

roads into Texas, agitation for the national trail waned. Special studies of the fever situation by the Department of Agriculture and state agencies ultimately solved the disease problem, while special acts of Congress in 1891-92 brought order out of the confused quarantine situation.

The prolonged Texas fever controversy had distinct and permanent effects upon the cattle industry. It forced the Texans to turn to the west instead of the northern and eastern markets and aided materially in the founding of the industry in New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and other states. The fear of the disease led cattlemen in the range states to seek other sources than Texas for their basic stock, resulting directly in the development of the short horned breeds—the Shorthorn, Durham, Hereford and other stocks—in contrast with the long horned Texas cattle. Texans made efforts to improve their own herds through the importation of purebred bulls. Inspection and quarantine standards were established and recognized as essential to the continued progress of the industry.

Quarantine restrictions, range and rustling wars and other difficulties failed to deter the Texas cattlemen. High prices in the early 80's led to a heavy drain upon the young stock, many of which were shipped to market though still immature. By the spring of 1882 a shortage actually existed and for the first time in history the demand for Texas cattle exceeded the supply. Scotch and English investors poured millions of dollars into newly founded cattle corporations. The price and number of cattle continued to rise. Huge fortunes were staked on the growth of the trade and

"Cattle Kings and Queens" appeared on every hand. Among the more prominent were Colonel Richard King whose herd of from 40,000 to 50,000 longhorns ranged on his 350,000-acre spread in Nueces County; Captain Kennedy ranged 40,000 cattle on his 140,000-acre ranch in the same county. Coleman, Matthias and Fulton of Arkansas owned a 210,000-acre fenced property and ranged about 100,000 cattle. One of the leading cattle queens of the 80's was a Mrs. Robb of Corpus Christi who ranged 15,000 longhorn cattle on her 50,000-acre ranch. The names of Goodnight, Chisum, Slaughter, Ellison, Head and a score of others stand high on any list of Texas cattle kings.

By 1885 Texas led the nation in beef cattle production with a recorded 6,755,454 head ranging over 117,505,920 acres of land. The value of this vast herd (plus some 629,246 head of dairy stock) was placed at \$129,231,250. Neither speculators nor cattlemen, unfortunately, could see that the "beef bonanza" could not continue indefinitely. The wild rush of amateur "cowmen" to the Texas ranges and the glowing overexaggerated accounts of easy profits published in the eastern and British press were but indications of the inflation which produced the catastrophe following the disastrous winter of 1885-86. The price of cattle began to fall in 1884 and definite signs of waning financial confidence were noted as early as the spring of 1885. With the fencing of the domain and the need for supplementary feeding due to overgrazing, the costs of production became a major factor in Texas for the first time. Disaster hit the Texas cattlemen. Million dollar corporations failed

(Continued on Page 24)

Western Stock Ranch Earnings and Values



Productive Rocky Mountain foothill cattle range. (U. S. Forest Service photo)

By MONT H. SAUNDERSON
Range Economist, U. S. Forest Service

THE IDEA OF "NORMAL" CAPITAL values for western stock ranches, based upon their sustained productive capacities and upon their earning power as well balanced units, is comparatively recent. Had it not been for the depression prices of the early 30's, the drought of the middle 30's and the abnormal price and cost situation of the recent war period, the concept of normal earnings and values would have been much clearer. Had it not been for these influences, probably the time had arrived for the development, during the past 15 years, of market prices for western stock ranch properties that would approximate capital values based upon normal earnings. Now we see a good deal of skepticism as to whether such a normal value concept is anything but a fiction. But the alternative to thinking in terms of normal capital values is a "boom-and-bust" philosophy of ranch property values.

Some Past Trends

It is not difficult to see why the concept of a normal capital value for the western stock ranch is regarded by many as an unproved theory and a fiction. There has been scant opportunity during the history of western range livestock operations for the real estate markets to reflect ranch property values based upon stability of production and income.

There have been three fairly distinct

periods in the changing picture of western stock ranch economy. The first period, from about 1880 to 1905, was the time of open range operations. During the second period, from 1905 to 1925, western homesteading and land settlement caused rapid and far-reaching change. In the past 20 years since 1925, western stock ranches have been working toward stability of land ownership and tenure and of production management. But the requisites of price and cost stability have not prevailed to a degree that the real estate markets could develop capital values for what might be considered any normal situation of gross earnings, operating costs and operator net incomes.

The period of open range operations was inevitably temporary and unstable. It is more or less academic now to discuss what might have prevailed in western stock ranch economy had there been a better-suited program of land settlement and of western agricultural policy. The range livestock operations of the open range period were rather generally large and extensive, the profits were sometimes fabulous, and the losses were often disastrous. There was generally little thought of, or incentive for owning land other than for a ranch headquarters. Migration to the localities best suited for winter range substituted to a large degree for winter feed crops, but the migration possibilities were rapidly eliminated after land settlement began to close off the migration routes.

The thoughts of the range operator at the close of the open range period are aptly expressed by the following quotation from a book of western verse*:

"Oh it's squeak! squeak! squeak!
Hear 'em stretchin' of the wire!
The Nester brand is on the land,
I reckon I'll retire."

"Their house has locks on every door;
Their land is in a crate.
These ain't the plains of God no more,
They're only real estate."

During the period of western homesteading, the ranch operations began to organize their land holdings to compete with the farming operations for the ownership and control of range land, water and feed crop land. This was another transitional period for most western stock ranches. Many western areas that were homesteaded for crop agriculture and that have since returned to a stock ranch economy have had to wash out land values and land costs that were generated by the temporary and unsuited farm economy. This is well illustrated by a comparison of the history of land costs for the stock ranches of the Musselshell Valley of central Montana and of the Big Hole Basin of southwestern Montana. By 1920, the stock ranches of the Musselshell Valley were rather generally attempting to carry an annual land cost for land taxes, land leases and the interest on land investment, of \$6 to \$8 per head for the year-round capacity of the ranches. This has since been readjusted to the feasible limits for stock ranches in this area—around \$4 per head annual land cost for the number of cattle that can be well maintained. The ranches of the Big Hole Basin, where the elevation and the limited growing season preclude crop agriculture, have, until the recent war period, typically had an annual land cost of \$4 to \$5 per head for the numbers that can be maintained. Another illustration of a stock ranch area where relatively stable and economic land prices, rentals and taxes have prevailed is the Nebraska sandhills.

During the third of the above-mentioned periods in western stock ranch economy, or since about 1925, the stock ranches have rather generally been working toward the essential management objectives of a seasonally well-balanced unit, a sustained productive capacity, and a stable land ownership and tenure. If, during the next decade, there prevails a period of reasonable price stability with prices and costs in a good relationship, we shall likely see market prices of ranch properties become a fairly good expression of the normal earning values of such properties.

Well-Balanced Ranch Earns More

Most ranch operators have at some time given some thought to the management problem of the balance between the

*From "The Old Cowman" in "Sun and Saddle Leather," by Charles Badger Clark. Published by the Badger Publishing Co., Boston.

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seasonal capacities of their ranch throughout the year. A good management situation in this regard means a well-balanced relationship between feed crops and range, where winter feeding is necessary, and a balance between range land capacities during the different natural periods of the grazing season. In the general western picture the feed crop lands of stock ranches have now been developed to the point where feed crop production for winter maintenance of livestock equals or exceeds the capacities of the grazing lands.

The methods of attaining a balanced relationship of range land capacities through the grazing season vary somewhat in different parts of the western range country. In the plains regions, roughly between the 100th meridian and the Rocky Mountains, the same type of range land must generally be used throughout the grazing season. In these plains grasslands the seasonal balance of capacities for the spring, summer and fall seasons depends upon a complement of useable range plants that produce spring, summer and fall feed in a balanced relationship through the grazing season. In the northern plains, with the Platte River as the approximate southern limit, the native range plants usually afford a good balance of grazing capacities throughout the grazing season. The range type of northern plains, known as the mixed prairie type, has a combination of the mid-grasses and the short grasses. The mid-grasses, such as the wheat grasses, grow early in the spring and again produce some green feed in

the fall. The short grasses, such as the blue grama, are the summer grasses that produce summer and fall feed. For this northern plains range type, the seasonal balance of range capacities is attained through range management practices designed to maintain a good natural growth relationship in the complement of mid-grasses and short-grasses. The use of crested wheat grass pastures for spring grazing has improved the seasonal balance for many ranches where the native mid-grasses were deficient.

In the central plains, from the Platte River to the southern limit of the high plains in northern Texas and north-eastern New Mexico, the range is predominantly a short grass type. The short grasses, the gramas and the true buffalo grass produce more summer feed than the mid-grasses produce for spring and fall grazing. Since the mid-grasses are naturally more limited in the central plains and are inclined to give way to the short grasses as a result of drouth or heavy use, the stock ranches of the central plains do not have as favorable a natural balance as do those of the northern plains. The central plains ranches have adapted their operations to this to a considerable extent by the use of fall-sown wheat for pasturage, and by the production of dry-land corn, grain sorghums and sudan grass as forage crops.

The ranches of the southern plains, central and western Texas and eastern New Mexico can attain a reasonably good year-round range balance through management of the native range plant

growth. This is due to the natural combination of the short grasses, some mid-grasses, browse plants, and the winter-growing annuals. Some ranches have seen this natural balance rather badly disturbed, however, when an increase in browse plants resulting from drouth and heavy use has diminished the area and yield of the grasses.

In contrast with the ranches of the plains, the ranches of the Rocky Mountain and of the "Intermountain" region (between the Rocky Mountains and the Cascade and Sierra Mountain chains to the west) must attain their seasonal range balance by fitting distinctly seasonal range lands into the land unit of the ranch. Some of the ranches of the Rocky Mountain and Intermountain regions find it easily possible to attain this balance, some are in a naturally unbalanced resource situation and others have seen a good natural balance change to an unfavorable relationship due to adverse trend on one of the seasonal ranges.

The foothill ranches of the Rocky Mountain country have as a rule a good opportunity to attain a favorable balance in seasonal land capacities. They can manage between north and south slopes for early, mid-season and late season use, and use the hay meadows for some fall pasturage. The high mountain valley ranches of the Rocky Mountain region rather typically have an over-balance of hay meadow land for the limited summer range for cattle in the higher elevations, and as a consequence often use some of the meadow lands for summer pasturage.



The high mountain-valley cattle ranch sometimes lacks upland summer range suited to cattle. (Neil W. Johnson photo)

Many of the semi-desert cattle ranches of the Intermountain country have seen their seasonal balance of range land capacities changed by the widespread invasion of cheatgrass over much of the immense sagebrush-grass type of northern Utah, southern Idaho, eastern Oregon, and northern Nevada. Before the cheatgrass, which is an early-growing annual, displaced much of the native bunchgrasses of this range type, the cattle ranches used this land as a season-long range. Now in an average season this range will not, in many areas, maintain the cattle gains past mid-July. In their re-organization to meet this change many cattle ranches have made a considerable reduction in numbers operated, and now make increased use of the hay meadows for summer and fall pasturage. Others of these ranches do, however, attain reasonably good results from grazing the dry cheatgrass through the summer and fall months.

Sustained Capacity a Value Requisite

Any well-managed ranch will have some annual variation in its productive capacity, due to the natural variation of the seasons. But a ranch may also undergo trends, up or down, in its capacity, due to management or to the lack of it. Few experienced observers will deny that the productive capacity of a ranch can be adversely influenced by a continued heavy use of the range lands. But some observers contend that any such practice is so universally unprofitable that any ranch operator following such a practice will fail before the land resource is very much impaired—that livestock market weights and ranch profits are, consequently, the practical guide to range land management.

Perhaps this management viewpoint applies reasonably well to the plains grasslands. It appears to be just as probable that this management viewpoint does not fit most of the other range types to the west of the plains. A summary of the viewpoints regarding this were presented by the author of this article in a previous one which appeared in the November, 1942, issue of the *AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER*, and need not be repeated here.

In the valuation of a ranch property for purchase or for land loans, we attempt to look 20, 30 or 40 years into the future. We judge the sustainable productive capacity of the ranch from the best information as to the history of numbers operated by the ranch, the present range plant and soil conditions, and the apparent trends in these conditions. We assume that the productive capacity of the ranch as we now judge it can be and will be maintained or improved. We must, consequently, think in terms of the probable average capacity of the ranch to produce and to sustain production. For the mountain valley, foothill, and semi-desert ranches the idea of a safe average annual capacity is not only the

(Continued on Page 18)

ASSOCIATION NOTES

At the annual "roundup dinner" of the Pocatello Cattlemen's Association (Idaho) 32 members and guests enjoyed dinner and an informal program including remarks by President Aaron Evans, Arimo; Ray Swanson, Pocatello; Caribou Forest Supervisor I. M. Varner, Pocatello; Forest Ranger James Bruce and B. W. Henderson, Arimo.

Lemhi County (Idaho) Cattlemen's Association members and their guests at their annual banquet and dance heard Governor Charles C. Gossett speak on marketing of livestock. President of the association is Owen Wilson, Lemhi, Ida.

In annual meeting at Ione, Calif., members of the Amador-El Dorado-Sacramento Counties Branch of the CCA elected the following officers: Stanley Van Vleck of Sloughhouse, president; Frank Yager of Ione, vice-president; Mrs. Camilla J. Celio of Placerville, secretary (re-election). Leroy Rankin, president of the California state group, spoke in the course of the business meeting, which was well attended.

Subject of a resolution adopted by the North Park Stockgrowers Association in meeting at Walden, Colo., Nov. 14, was the proposed cutting of cattle grazing permits in the Routt National Forest. Strenuously protesting the plan, whereby the Forest Service would drastically reduce grazing privileges—without proper examination of the situation, according to the resolution—the group charged that the "arbitrary manner in which the action was taken . . . created instability in the entire ranch and livestock industry dependent upon the forest."

At the quarterly meeting of the Santa Clara County Cattlemen's Association, presided over by President Jere W. Sheldon at San Jose on Oct. 27, it was decided to hold a six-county cattlemen's meeting early next year. The Santa Clara County Cattlemen's Association will be host to this gathering. Other counties to participate will be: San

Benito, Monterey, Santa Cruz, Alameda and San Mateo. Meeting place no doubt will be Gilroy.

The youngest member of the California Cattlemen's Association family of branch organizations is the Trinity Mendocino-Lake Counties Branch, formed at Willits, Oct. 25. Elmer Bauer, Covelo, was elected president; Clyde Eddy, Potter Valley, vice-president; Ray Thalman, Willits, secretary-treasurer.

The Illinois Cattle Feeders Association was organized on Nov. 1 with plans for forming local branches in all congressional districts of the state. Strother Jones of Sangamon County is president of the group, which has gone on record against continuance of price ceilings, subsidies and similar regulations.

At a mid-November meeting of the North Dakota State Farm Bureau, F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, spoke on subsidies, price controls and other similar topics currently confronting the nation's industry. Mr. Mollin was introduced by L. E. Arndt, secretary of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association.

With establishment of the Colquitt County Beef Cattle Association in Moultrie, Ga., recently, that state now has the first such organization on record there, according to an account in South-eastern Cattleman. Aims of the group are, chiefly, the increase in numbers of purebred or graded cattle in the county and aid in the control of screwworms.

Hubbard Russell of Maricopa, Calif., has been named to take the place of O. M. Plummer, deceased, as a director on the National Live Stock and Meat Board. Mr. Russell will serve with Albert Mitchell as a representative of the American National, of which both men are past presidents.

Nevadans Convene

Two full days of informative and interesting discussions by state and national figures, climaxed by two evenings of entertainment and social activity, sent members of the Nevada State Cattle Association home from their annual convention at Elko, Nov. 15-16, with the feeling that much had been accomplished through their attendance at the meetings.

The convention was presided over by President George W. Smith of Arthur, who was returned to office for another year during the closing session. Other officers named included: Russell Weeks,

DUDE RANCH HORSEPLAY

To greet the morn with a zest new-born,
Rigged out in tight cowboy pants;
All eager to ride where landscapes are wide,
And heat waves shimmy and dance.
To sit a-straddle in a western style saddle,
On a horse always leaping or landing;
Such rugged stunts can provide a deep tan,
True sportsmanship—and standing!
—HOWARD HAYNES

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vice-president; E. C. Murphy, Jr., second vice-president; and C. A. Sewell, secretary-treasurer (re-elected).

Among the speakers were C. E. Favre of the Forest Service at Ogden, Utah; Dr. Warren Earl; W. B. Wright, vice-president of the American National; Radford Hall, Denver, assistant to the executive secretary of the American National; Vernon Metcalf, secretary of the Nevada Livestock Production Credit Association; Governor Vail Pittman; Wayne McLeod of the state land office; J. Edgar Dick of the American Meat Institute, Los Angeles; President Smith and Secretary Sewell with his annual report, and others.

Topics which received attention included: subsidies; grazing cuts; range fire control; brand laws; soil conservation, and state roads.

Two motion pictures were shown to the assembled cattlemen in the course of the meetings—one by the Cutter Laboratories and the other by International Harvester.

The resolutions adopted by members of the Nevada State Cattle Association convened at Elko urged passage of the McCarran forest bill No. S-33, providing for stability of operation on national forests and legal status for the advisory boards; reiterated opposition to any modification of the sanitary embargoes; protested any increase in grazing fees, and also further cuts in grazing permits. The stockmen, in addition, recorded their objection to continuance of subsidy and price ceiling programs and asked for an amendment to Section 15 of Senate Bill S-1402, to afford protection for range users; they endorsed the Bulwinkle Bill (H.R. 2536) in connection with freight rates and the establishment of planning boards for the development of secondary road systems within the state. The association urged a thorough study of Nevada's game situation with a view to attaining a practical and balanced wild-life program, and approved also the establishment of uniform brand inspection for the state.

Members and officials of Nevada State Cattle Association in convention at Elko. Photo 1, at top, A. W. Smith, of Arthur; W. S. Gilmer, Wells, former president of the association; A. J. Dewar, Elko. 2: Nominating committee, l. to r.—E. C. Murphy, Jr., Deeth; Newton H. Crumley, Elko; George D. Banks, Elko. 3: Resolutions committee, starting at left—D. F. Glaser, Halleck; Elmor Hill, Battle Mountain (in light jacket); Wm. B. Wright, Deeth, vice-president of the national organization; Ralph Smith, Ruby Valley; George Oglivie, Elko; Archie Dewar, Elko; Edward Friendly, Deeth (in shirt sleeves). 4: Convention banquetters—(in usual left-to-right order around the table) Wayne McLeod of state land office; Mrs. Wm. B. Wright; Wm. B. Wright; Mrs. George Smith, wife of state group president; George Smith; Pete Walters, Elko Chamber of Commerce; Mrs. Walters; and Governor Vail Pittman.



FORESTERS MAY SET DANGEROUS PRECEDENT

By DR. B. F. DAVIS
Sec. Colo. Stock Growers
and Feeders Assn.

(As excerpted from
The Western Magazine)

A SITUATION HAS DEVELOPED IN the administration of the Pike National Forest which will interest all stockgrowers using the national forests or public domains. Little publicity has been given this problem since it first came to the attention of permittees on the Pike, but it is a matter which deserves the close scrutiny of every member of the livestock industry.

The Pike National Forest consists of 1,253,880 acres, including 119,426 acres of deeded land. The net acreage of na-

tional forest lands thus is 1,134,454 acres. The Pike is located near Denver and Colorado Springs, Colo., and forms part of the watershed for the Denver and Colorado Springs water system. It is also an important and growing recreation area and is used by approximately 140 permittees for livestock grazing, mostly cattle.

The Forest Service now proposes to eliminate grazing on certain areas in the Pike National Forest. This proposal represents a radical departure from established policy. If the Forest Service manages to close the Pike to livestock grazing, a dangerous precedent will be established and will stand as a threat to all permittees on all national forests. If the service is successful and extends such a program, it is even possible that the same pretexts might be used event-

ually to close sections of the public domain to grazing.

This, then, is the serious problem confronting the permittees on the Pike National Forest—a situation that should be watched closely by all stockmen in the western states.

Only high Forest Service officials themselves know the actual reasons behind their movement. However, they have presented a number of arguments on various occasions in support of such a program: that main value of the forest lay in its watershed use; that livestock grazing—particularly cattle—had caused serious erosion.

Regional Forester John W. Spencer states the Forest Service plan in these words: "We can see no answer to that problem short of materially reducing the grazing on those particular areas.

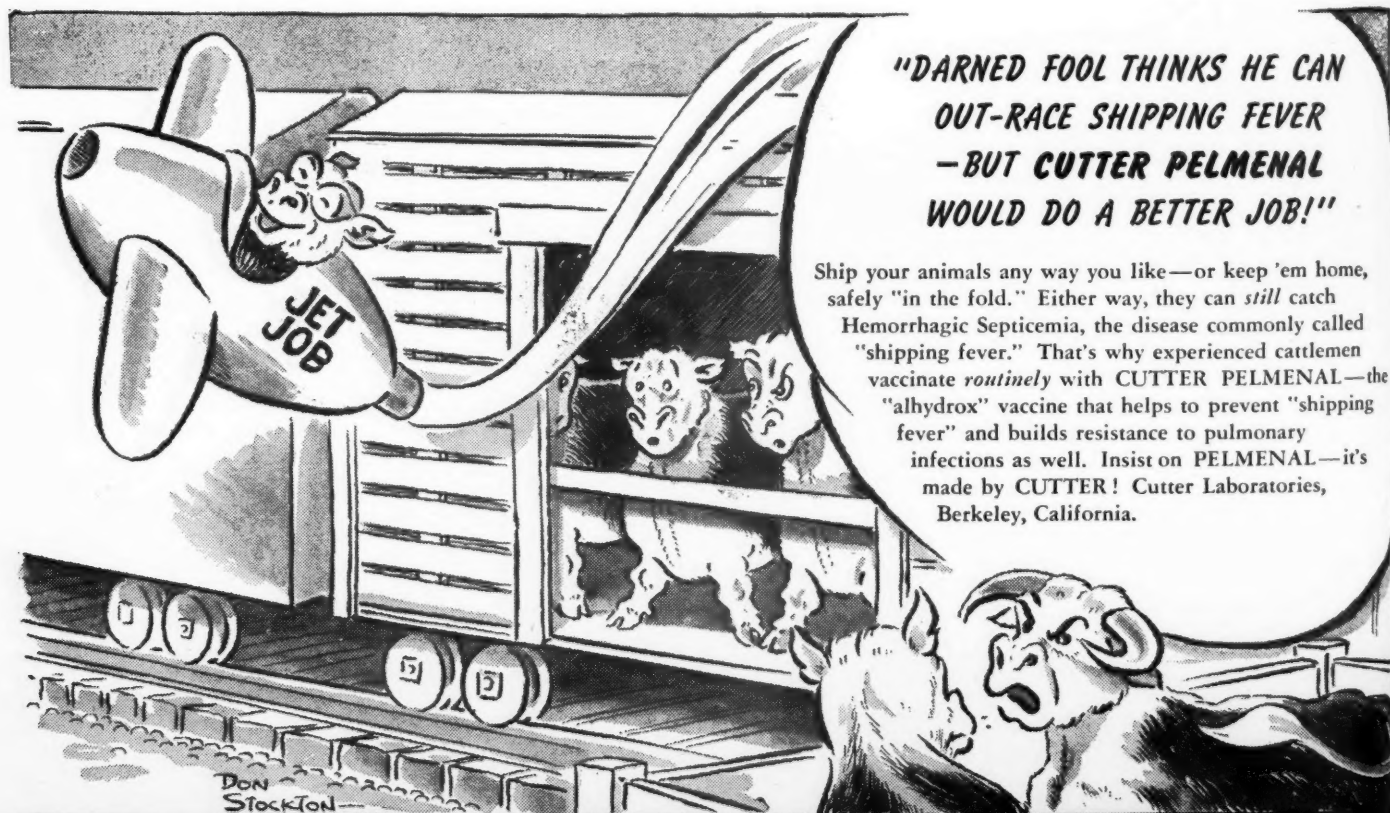
"How to do it is in the process of study. We have intended to eliminate grazing in those critical spots. Now, I am frank to say, in all fairness, some of those ranchers are on submarginal lands, on farms producing nothing for the livestock industry of the state. If they are wiped out of existence, I think it should be through an orderly process, a process of purchase."

At the annual meeting of the Pike Forest Advisory Boards in Colorado Springs last Apr. 30, Pike Forest Supervisor E. S. Keithley outlined the program of action for elimination of grazing as follows:

OPA CHIEF EXPRESSES APPRECIATION FOR WARTIME JOB OF MEAT PRODUCERS

In a telegram addressed to F. E. Mollin as executive secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, OPA Administrator Chester Bowles on Nov. 23 declared his agency had received USDA notification that sufficient supplies of meats and fats permitted cessation of rationing on them while still allowing for shipment of substantial quantities of food to war-devastated countries abroad.

"Without patriotic cooperation of members of your organization," the Bowles wire asserted, "we could never have kept people at home well fed and at the same time maintained full supply lines to our armed forces and fighting allies." He asked that his thanks and congratulations be conveyed for all that had been done to make the program work.



"DARNED FOOL THINKS HE CAN OUT-RACE SHIPPING FEVER - BUT CUTTER PELMENAL WOULD DO A BETTER JOB!"

Ship your animals any way you like—or keep 'em home, safely "in the fold." Either way, they can *still* catch Hemorrhagic Septicemia, the disease commonly called "shipping fever." That's why experienced cattlemen vaccinate *routinely* with CUTTER PELMENAL—the "alhydrox" vaccine that helps to prevent "shipping fever" and builds resistance to pulmonary infections as well. Insist on PELMENAL—it's made by CUTTER! Cutter Laboratories, Berkeley, California.

DON STOCKTON

CUTTER Laboratories • Berkeley, Calif. • Since 1897

"(f) Ultimate elimination of all grazing in certain critical areas by Dec. 31, 1950, and during that period continue present policy of taking up all slack through elimination of all temporary permits, shorter seasons, encouraged non-use, no term permits, no increases in performance, no transfer on sale of ranch or stock, and any other means to reduce the numbers of stock now grazed in the areas.

"(g) Consider for closing by Dec. 31, 1955, (making final decision by 1950) certain other critical areas and continue planned reduction program on these areas where continued grazing is questionable."

Throughout its discussions, the Forest Service has played up the watershed protection argument, and has barely mentioned the recreational value of the forest. Some observers believe that the forestry officials are really more interested in developing tourist playgrounds than in "protecting water supplies."

The present permittees on the "critical" grazing areas need and want their permits. Many are long-time residents of the area. If they are satisfied with their setups, their financial success or lack of it is nobody's business but their own.

The opposition of Pike permittees to the proposal is a well established fact. From a broader viewpoint, however, the program should be opposed by all stockmen, because it may eventually prove a stepping stone toward elimination of

all grazing on all forests.

If the Forest Service succeeds in this one instance, there is no assurance that they won't be back next year with a scheme to abolish permits on some other forest on the pretext that the forest should be for the exclusive use of hunters or picnickers. Or maybe big game animals. Or tourists.

For these reasons, all western range-men have a stake in the outcome of the Pike matter.

THE Secretary Reports

By F. E. M.

Last year some concern was expressed lest the utility beef program would wean people away from the better grades of beef. No need to worry longer. According to both the National Association of Retail Grocers and the National Association of Retail Meat Dealers, consumers are now demanding quality cuts.

The end of meat rationing is said to have turned a lot of 10-cent slot machines to the wall. The little red chips fit very nicely.

Here's a candidate for the world's unluckiest guy: He stole 250,000 red points the night before rationing was discontinued.

It will be interesting to note what

effect the end of meat rationing will have on the poultry trade. Chickens and turkeys are both plentiful. They have not been under price control and prices have been relatively high, compared with beef. Without the benefit of forced demand, created by shortage of red points, it seems reasonable to think prices for them might soften a bit.

Spring pig crop is late in coming to market. It is reported that they are being held to put on more weight, which will aid farmers in marketing low-grade corn and will also help relieve the fat shortage. Fortunately, rationing is out of the way before pork becomes a major competitor with beef again in the retail markets.

Did we lose any part of our normal consumer outlet for beef due to wartime scarcity? I believe not. Rationing, with all its faults, did push beef into areas previously not regarded as heavy in meat consumption. Then, too, when the war ended, the almost total absence of pork, either fresh or cured, from retail show cases put beef really out in front. A million-dollar advertising campaign would not have advertised our product so well as did those retail cases full of beef and with relatively little in the way of competitive products.

And also the American Meat Institute has been quick to get back into the field with an advertising program. In this



ANSWERS TO YOUR STOCK DISEASE PROBLEMS

—IN CUTTER'S

FREE CATALOG!

Send for it...

Can a simple wire scratch cause deadly blackleg? Can you graze your animals on anthrax "Badlands"? Is slaughtering the only way to rid your herd of repeated abortion?

No doubt you've asked these questions yourself. Now get *dependable*, honest answers—straight from the world's leading experts on animal diseases and their prevention: Cutter Laboratories.

Your free catalog contains detailed descriptions of all the diseases you're likely to meet—plus a handy chart, giving the boiled-down facts.

Just send your name and address to Cutter Laboratories, Berkeley, California. We'll see you get your *free copy—at once!*

If not available locally, write for name of nearest supplier. Address any Cutter branch office . . .

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respect, our product—long passed by in the advertising field—now appears to have come into its own. It does pay to advertise; but why it took so long to find it out with regard to fresh meats still remains obscure.

Now if we can get rid of subsidies and price controls, the industry would be justified in taking time off for a Roman holiday. . . . However, we didn't do so badly during the war. The cattle industry cooperated with emergency war agencies, striving always to retain the fullest possible degree of practicability in the programs necessary thereunder, but yet maintained a greater degree of independence—less leaning on Uncle Sam's shoulder—than most any group you can mention. May it always be that way!

WESTERN STOCK RANCH EARNINGS AND VALUES

(Continued from Page 14)

guide in any value appraisal of the ranch; it is an essential management concept. The ranch operator who wishes to protect the values in his ranch through his lifetime and beyond will not get very far away from this concept, even in a series of climatically favorable years. He will not revise his judgment of the capacity of a range upward very materially unless and until he sees clear and unmistakable indications of a continued upward trend in plant and soil conditions, for a range that is known to be below its potential capacity.

For the stock ranches of the plains grasslands, the concept of the average capacity of the ranch to produce over a series of years is an essential valuation concept, but somewhat less important as a management concept. It is a management guide or "bench mark," but we know that the plains grasslands do undergo considerable natural fluctuation in range feed production due to variations in seasons, and that sometimes there is a fairly clear trend through several seasons. Such a trend can, within limits, be accompanied with a program of varying livestock numbers and range use, upward when possible and down when necessary, with much more safety to the resource than can be done by the ranches of the Rocky Mountain and of the Intermountain country.

Normal Earnings for the Stock Ranch

"Normal earnings" for the western stock ranch may be defined as the margin between gross income and operating costs that results from an average season's production and a medium price and cost situation. This margin is the amount that is likely to be available annually over a series of years, to remunerate the operator for his work and for the interest return upon the capital values of ranch property and livestock.

As the basis for our consideration of normal ranch earnings, let's look first at

some production and income averages for the three main types of western cattle ranches. The annual production averages given below are derived by dividing the number of animals usually maintained through the year into the market weight of the animals marketed, as an average over a series of years. The result is a figure of pounds of annual market turn-off per head for each animal maintained in the herd through the year's operations. These figures are annual averages for a period of years. They represent average quality ranches and a cross-section of management for each of these three ranch types:

TABLE 1
AVERAGE ANNUAL MARKET PRODUCTION PER HEAD OF CATTLE MAINTAINED
Pounds of beef marketed annually per head of animals maintained:

Mountain Valley and Foothill Ranches	Plains Ranches	Intermountain and Southwestern Semi-desert Ranches
325	265	200
Pounds	Pounds	Pounds

These figures show that the foothill and mountain valley ranches of the Rocky Mountain country have the highest production per head, that the plains ranches are intermediate and that the semi-desert ranches have a rather low production per head. But let's not conclude that these three general types of ranches have a comparable difference in net income. We'll see why when we compare the operating costs.

These production figures given in Table 1, when multiplied by our average or "normal" price for beef, give us a figure of annual gross income per head. To this figure of income from cattle production would be added the income from any supplementary enterprises of the ranches. But this varies greatly between ranches; some ranches have no market production other than from cattle where other ranches have other enterprises of more or less importance, so we'll disregard other income in our averages as given here.

Let's say that the average western price (to the grower) of beef cattle over a long period of years has been around 7 cents a pound. It's probably a little under that. This 7-cent average would likely mean about 8 to 9 cents for calves and yearlings, 7 to 8 cents for good

grade two-year-old steers, 5 to 6 cents for good grade cows and 4 to 5 cents for common grade cows. So if we multiply the production averages of Table 1 by a 7-cent price, we have a per head annual gross income figure (for the number of animals which the ranch can carry through the year). This gross income figure is shown below in Table 2 and with it are given the operating cost averages and resulting net incomes for these three types of ranches. The operating cost figures are selected as typical and representative of what has prevailed, as a long-time average, for each of these three types of ranches. There are some market price differences between these three types of ranches for the livestock typically marketed by them. This is due to some difference in quality and market grade of animals produced, and this has some influence upon the gross income averages of these three ranch types. But we will not attempt to go into that refinement here in our calculations:

TABLE 2
GROSS INCOME, OPERATING COSTS AND NET INCOMES FOR WESTERN CATTLE RANCHES, RESULTING FROM A MEDIUM PRICE AND PRODUCTION COST SITUATION

Mountain Valley and Foothill Ranches	Plains Ranches	Intermountain and Southwestern Semi- desert Ranches
Gross income per head of animals main- tained—		
\$22.75	\$18.55	\$14.00
Operating cost per head—		
14.35	12.25	8.50
Net income per head—		
8.40	6.30	5.50

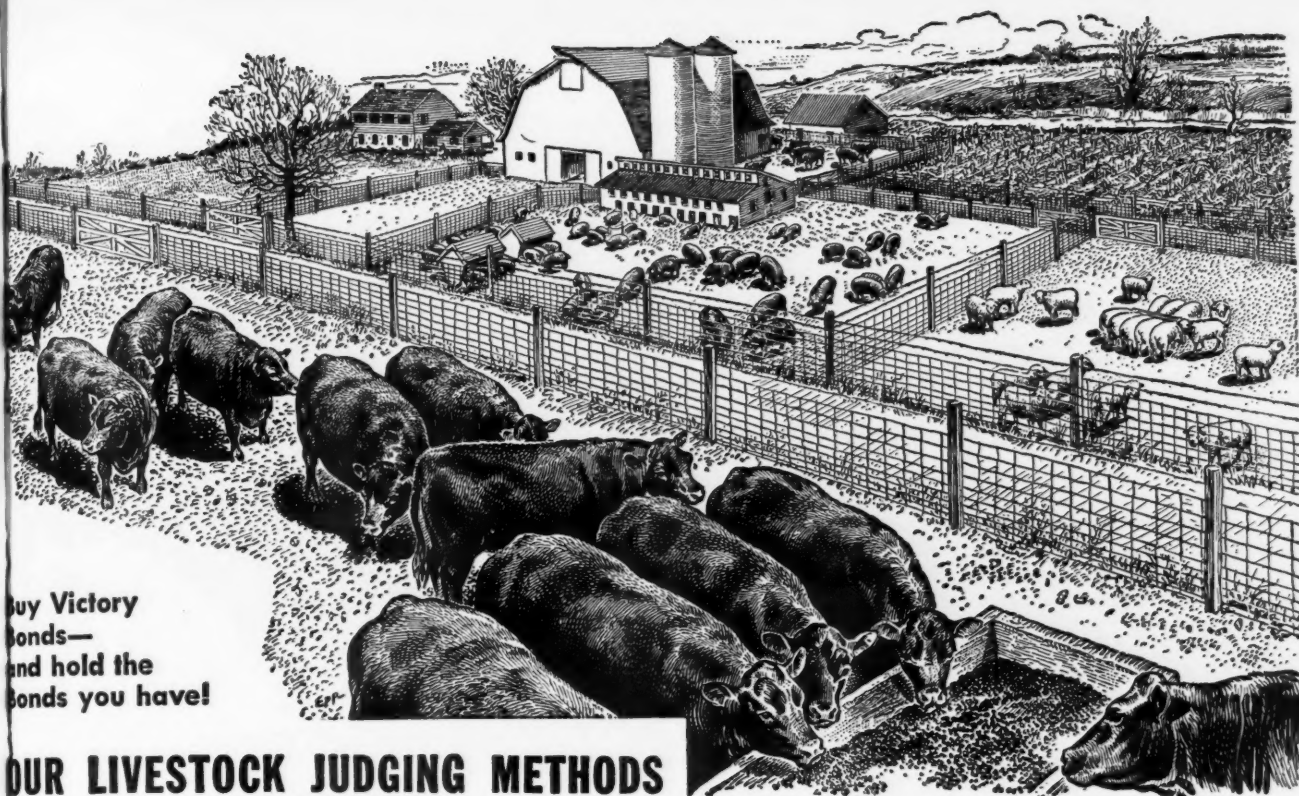
The operating cost figures given above as typical for the medium price situation are the cash production costs to the operator, not including interest. These operating costs do not include any personal expense items for the operator. The net income figure is, consequently, the amount available to pay interest upon any indebtedness and to remunerate the operator for wages and for interest return upon his investment equity.

Some Ranch Value Standards

What kind of ranch values, then, will the ranch net earnings shown in Table 2, above, sustain? Casual observation of these net income figures as shown above tells us that the small stock ranch cannot carry much interest on indebtedness; that the interest earnings for capital values must be an important part of the operator net revenue for the 100 to 150-head ranch. Consequently, the figures given above on costs and income, and the figures below in Tables 3 and 4 showing ranch investment values apply primarily to the ranch that is large enough to be distinctly a commercial enterprise; that is, large enough that hired labor is an important feature of the operating costs, and that the net income is sufficient to remunerate operator wages and leave an adequate margin of net income as an interest return to support capital values.

A calculation of this kind, based upon the earnings of the commercial-sized ranch, gives us the following results as





Buy Victory Bonds— and hold the Bonds you have!

OUR LIVESTOCK JUDGING METHODS

By R. G. JOHNSON

Head, Department of Animal Husbandry, Oregon State College

Domestic animals are machines for converting plant material into meat, fibers, and other human needs. Competition forces the modern farmer to evaluate efficiency in terms of tons or bushels per acre, dairy production in pounds of butterfat per cow per year, and poultry results in number of eggs per year. Thus, since the basic resource is feed and not animals, shouldn't livestock producers evaluate breeding stock on the basis of meat or of wool their offspring produces per 100 pounds of feed consumed?

The show ring standard for judging animals by external appearance has given us advancement up to a certain point, but breeding for the show ring does not always lead to efficient feed utilization.

A step in the right direction is the increasing use of proved sires. Today, through use of artificial insemination, the purebred breeder is greatly assisted in the establishment and increase of efficient blood lines.

Tomorrow's "yardstick" will not only be bigger yields per acre but also more pounds of meat and fiber per ton of feed.

"AMINOS" ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU

From the nutrition research laboratories comes the story of *amino acids*, mysterious substances found in the proteins we eat. Aminos are used by our bodies to build and rebuild our tissues, organs and blood. They also help fight off infections.

Of the 23 known aminos, ten are absolutely essential to health and even to life itself. *Meat is rich in all ten of them.* That's why doctors, working to rebuild the shattered bodies of wounded servicemen, order diets with large amounts of meat. That is also why everybody should eat meat for health as well as for its fine flavor and its "stick-to-the-ribs" food value.

Swift and other meat packers, through The American Meat Institute, are telling this vital story of meat and its health-building aminos in many millions of advertising messages. As people read this story, there will be wider markets for meat—and the livestock you produce.

THE EDITOR'S COLUMN



A smart steer on range goes to where the forage is best. A smart livestock producer sells where the market is best. There are many sources of information to help him decide where that best market may be. Radio networks and nearby stations report daily on receipts and prices at central and local markets. Commission houses and their field men are ready to give personal advice on the best time and place to sell. Newspapers publish detailed descriptions of market conditions. Various timely reports are available from the U. S. D. A. and other impartial sources on trends and developments in the livestock-and-meat industry.

In making their bids, livestock buyers also use current market information. *Acceptance of any price offered is entirely up to the producer or his sales agent.* Meat packing plants and their buyers are located at so many widespread points that if a producer is not satisfied with prices offered by any one buyer, he has a choice of several others to which he may sell his animals.

Moreover, with 3,500 meat packing plants and 26,000 other concerns and individuals who slaughter livestock commercially, there is bound to be keen competitive bidding for your livestock. Barring meat rationing and price ceilings, livestock prices are governed by what the packer can get for the meat and by-products.

F.M. Simpson.

Agricultural Research Department

Swift & Company

UNION STOCK YARDS, CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

★ ★ ★ NUTRITION IS OUR BUSINESS — AND YOURS ★ ★ ★

Right Eating Adds Life to Your Years — and Years to Your Life

to normal or long-time investment value standards for the western stock ranch. We will not attempt to show this for the three ranch types, directly, but will show an approximation of the results for different ranch types indirectly by showing the differences in value for different quality and grades of land. In Table 3, below, is given this result for range lands:

TABLE 3
VALUES PER ACRE FOR DIFFERENT GRADES OF RANGE LAND

Grade of Range Land	Normal Investment Value Per Acre
First grade land, 2 acres per animal mo.....	\$3.50
Second grade land, 2½ acres per animal mo.....	2.75
Third grade land, 3½ acres per animal mo.....	1.75
Fourth grade land, 5 acres per animal mo.....	1.00
Fifth grade land, 8 acres per animal mo.....	.50

These value standards given above for range lands recognize differences in value per unit of capacity for range lands of different productivity. For example, the above values per acre will result in a range land capital investment of \$7 per animal month of range land capacity for the first grade of land, \$6 per animal month for third grade, and \$4 per animal month for fifth grade. These differences in investment values per unit of capacity are due primarily to the differences in production and income per unit of capacity from lands of differ-

ent productivity, as indicated in a general way by the figures in Table 2 showing the net income comparison for three major ranch types.

The investment values of ranch hay lands that can be supported by normal ranch earnings can be calculated in the same manner as the value standards for range lands shown in Table 3. This result for hay lands is given in Table 4, below:

TABLE 4
VALUES PER ACRE FOR DIFFERENT GRADES OF HAY LAND

Hay Yield Per Acre	Normal Investment Value Per Acre
2½ tons	\$60
2 tons	45
1½ tons	30
1 ton	20

These per acre values for hay lands of different productivity as shown above would result in a land investment per animal month of capacity (500 pounds of hay per animal month average, including use of fall pasturage after harvest) similar to those for the range land values given in Table 3. These values for hay lands recognize the usually higher value per unit of capacity for the higher yielding lands, due primarily to the lower production cost per ton for high yields. The per acre value of \$60 for the 2½-ton per-acre hay land results in an investment per animal month of hay land capacity of \$6; the similar figure for the one-ton per acre land is \$5. These value standards given in Table 4 for hay lands are for similar quality of hay for the

low yield and the high yield lands. Quality differences could modify these results very materially.

Now, let's do some figuring to see what the land value standards of Tables 3 and 4 would mean in land investment for, let us say, a 300-head ranch. First, for illustration we will use a foothill ranch with the best grades of range and hay lands, using the range eight months and the hay and hay meadow pasturage four months. This ranch would have \$16,800 invested in range land and \$7,200 in hay land, a total of \$24,000. This is \$80 per head investment in ranch property.

For another example, let's make the same calculation for a 300-head ranch using third grade range land and 1½-ton per-acre hay land, grazing 10 months and feeding two months. This would be fairly typical of the northern plains ranch. The result in total land investment is \$21,375, or approximately \$70 per head in ranch property. These figures are based upon total operator ownership of the lands used by the ranch, and are consequently higher than for the more or less typical situation where some lands are leased or used under a grazing permit. Where leased lands are an important part of the ranch unit, the value standards given in the preceding tables can be applied to the deeded lands on an animal month basis.

Some Recent Trends

The average price (net ranch price) received by western beef cattle producers was \$11.70 per hundred pounds in 1943. This has resulted in an annual gross income per head for the herd maintained of as much as \$40 for the more productive ranches. While there has also been a considerable rise in operating costs, the net income of 1943 was for many operators almost as much as might be normally expected for the gross income.

The consequence has been some startling increases in land prices and land rental rates, in extreme cases amounting to investments in ranch property of \$200 per head of ranch capacity, and in range land rental rates for a five-year term lease of \$1.50 per animal month. These figures are, of course, far beyond the normal value limits for the ranch that derives its revenue from range beef cattle production. There are undoubtedly some influences other than ranch earning values in many of the recent extreme ranch rate prices, and especially for ranches in the Rocky Mountain region. Competition for the foothill and mountain valley ranches in the more attractive sites has sometimes resulted in prices much above the economic limits of their income from livestock production. In contrast, land prices and rental rates in the Nebraska sandhills country have rather generally remained relatively stable and economic through the war period.

The ranch property prices that have developed during the recent war period make the value standards set forth in

SON IS BACK

Hello, Son. You are back; then the war is over. I am proud, Son. Do you remember the last night you were at home on your short furlough just before leaving the States? You asked Jane for her horse to ride early the next morning. You said you were going out on the hills to watch the sun come up. I knew what you were thinking. I knew the feeling you had on leaving the place. I wanted to make that ride with you, Son.

I did not sleep that night. And there've been plenty sleepless nights since. Somehow, before the morning, I felt you were coming back—back to the land that you loved and wanted to be alone with at sunrise, back to the land where you spent your boyhood days in play and work, back to the land that has kept us so long and kept us well.

It was worth fighting for then, Son. It is worth more now. It might not have been if you and millions more like you had not done what you did. That is one reason I am proud, Son. We never fared badly the years you were gone. We did not suffer any severe hardships. We worked hard, yes. But the land—we still have it, and our freedom to own it. That's part of what you and others have helped do.

We are land lovers, Son. Our forefathers have always lived on and tilled the soil and grazed cattle on it. Yes, the city has its fascinations, but not the freedom and the pure air.

I see you have battle scars. You are much thinner than when you went away. You've been spared, Son, for some particular purpose, and I want to think it is to stay on this very land. You, perhaps, cannot work it as you once did. You cannot ride as before. You are somewhat aged and crippled. Yet there are many who will gladly help you and be happy doing so.

It's my time to go now, Son. I am not going to say goodbye. You didn't, Son, when you went to war. What a splinter of a lad you were then. How bravely you took the separation. I am going to do as you did. I cannot come back, though, as you did on furlough, and when the job was finished. How I would love to many years hence! Take care of the land, Son. It is yours now. It will always take care of you.

I now know what the words "I'll be waiting for you" mean. I will.

ANONYMOUS.



Southwestern semi-desert cattle range (Grazing Service photo)

this article seem ultra-conservative, perhaps unrealistic. Possibly these values are somewhat on the conservative side. But the evidence as to earning power indicates that if we are to have stability in ranch ownership and in ranch management, we cannot get very far away from land value and land cost standards

such as those given here.

It should be re-emphasized finally, that while the value standards presented in this article are based upon a good cross section of western ranch operations, many individual ranches will justifiably differ materially from these standards. This is due to local situations

in resources, costs, markets and other management opportunities and obstacles. The practical use of these standards is that of general guides against which the situation of the individual ranch can be measured, and the reasons for any material differences studied and analyzed.

AUTOMOTIVE TAXES

By Bethune Jones

WHILE CATTLE PRODUCERS WILL be among the beneficiaries of the new era of highway construction now starting to be translated from blueprints into reality, they also will be increasingly threatened with higher gasoline and other automotive taxes as the states progress with their programs.

The states generally have accumulated sufficient highway funds to begin putting up their share of the three-year, three-billion-dollar federal-state post-war construction program now being launched, but a number do not have the revenues in sight for the full undertaking and may turn to added taxes or bond issues or both. Such action already has been taken in several states and is currently under consideration in others.

Nor will pressure for higher taxes be limited solely by the requirements of the federal-state program. With highway construction virtually at a standstill during the war years, and with much work deferred during the preceding depression decade, an enormous backlog of needed construction, reconstruction and maintenance work has piled up in the states. When the current federal-state program was before Congress, it was estimated that 16 billion dollars would be required to bring the nation's highways in all categories up to modern standards.

To wipe out highway obsolescence and provide up-to-date facilities, many states are contemplating long-range highway construction programs involving far greater costs than the level of the current federal-state program. In some there is the money to carry out these plans, while in others proposals are being made for supporting tax measures.

Although highway construction financing was sidestepped in many states during regular 1945 legislative sessions, nearly all of which adjourned before the end of the war, gasoline tax increases were proposed in some 19 states and enacted in four—Idaho, Iowa, Kansas and Oklahoma. Other automotive tax increases also were widely proposed, but the gasoline tax attracted the most attention as the largest revenue producer.

Idaho raised its gasoline tax from 5 to 7 cents per gallon and, according to predictions by state officials, will have to levy other higher taxes or issue bonds to meet its full share of the federal-state program. Iowa increased its gasoline tax from 3 to 4 cents a gallon, while Oklahoma jumped its rate from 5½ to 7½ cents a gallon—the highest in the country. The Kansas increase, from 3 to 4 cents, was not scheduled to become effective until funds available had been allocated. Besides these tax increments, several states, including Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, this year enacted so-called "temporary" or "emergency" gasoline tax increases which first made their appearance during depression years and have since tended to become fixed parts of state fiscal setups.

With highway construction now having been given the green light by Congress, proposals for new taxes will be increasingly raised. Among the states in which new revenues may be sought, or are already being proposed, are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Louisiana, Georgia, Idaho, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota.

Bond issuance will be resorted to by some states in preference to new taxes to meet post-war highway financing. Montana's legislature and electorate this year authorized the borrowing of \$12,000,000 for highways. Similarly, the bor-

rowing of up to \$12,360,000 has been authorized in North Dakota, and several other states, including New Mexico, South Carolina and West Virginia, may use this method of financing. Delaware's legislature this year rejected a \$5,000,000 bond issue proposal, although it was warned that subsequent reconsiderations of the measure or new taxes would be necessary to raise the state's share of the federal-state program. Highway bond issuance also has been suggested in Washington State.

A special session of the Louisiana legislature in October this year approved a highway program which, besides federal funds, will be financed by the sale of \$4,000,000 of highway bonds and the appropriation of \$11,500,000 from surplus general state funds. With \$14,500,000 of federal funds, this will provide a \$30,000,000 total. As against this, however, the highway department's over-all plans call for a \$350,000,000 highway expansion program and it is expected that additional revenues will be sought later. There have been proposals, however, that the funds be raised from an added sales tax rather than an automotive levy.

California's legislature may be called into special session next year to consider a 10- or 15-year highway construction program involving an outlay of nearly a billion dollars. A legislative interim committee investigating the subject is considering proposals for increasing truck weight fees, the registration fees for all motor vehicles, the diesel oil tax and the gasoline tax. It has been indicated the committee would favor an increase of at least 2 cents in the present state gasoline tax of 3 cents a gallon, and there has been talk of doubling the rate to 6 cents a gallon.

Gov. John C. Vivian announced that he

would ask a special session of the Colorado legislature, scheduled to open Nov. 19, to submit to the people at the 1946 general election the question of whether additional gasoline taxes should be enacted to raise that state's share of the third year of participation in the post-war federal-state highway construction program. It was proposed to meet the first two years' allocation of federal money by appropriation from surplus general funds. Governor Vivian believes that it will not be necessary to levy added taxes, but there has been strong contrary pressure. An increase of 2 cents per gallon in the state's gasoline tax was proposed by the State Highway Advisory Board to finance a \$150,000,000 long-range highway program.

Pressure from counties and cities for added slices of state funds to aid the localities in their road building is mounting in many states and will increasingly tend to swell the demand for higher state levies. In addition to the three billion dollar federal-state program, it is estimated that one and a half billion will be spent annually on county roads and city streets outside the federal-aid system. The cities and counties are turning to state capitals for help for such funds.

As against the gloomy outlook for a flood of new tax proposals, there are a number of offsetting factors which may tend to minimize the threat. One of the most important of these is the question of how soon gasoline and other automotive taxes will return to their pre-war yields. Gasoline tax receipts have mounted sharply since V-J Day and were on the uptrend even before that. Continuation of this trend may serve to ward off increased taxes in several states.

Also figuring prominently in the situation will be the extent to which general state funds are used to augment highway revenues in financing post-war road construction. With general taxes having produced swollen yields during the war boom years, while driving restrictions kept automotive tax receipts down, the use of surplus general funds for highway construction, as is already contemplated in a number of states, can go far toward solving the highway financing problem.

Since more than two billion dollars of highway-user tax receipts have been in the past diverted to general purposes, the return of some of this revenue would not be out of order, in the opinion of highway advocates. To what extent the practice of misusing highway-user tax receipts is further curbed in the future will also have a major bearing on the ability of some states to finance their road construction programs without added taxes.

Whether or not gasoline tax evasion is curbed also will have a bearing on the highway financing issue. Many states have laws exempting agricultural and other non-highway users from gasoline taxes. Officials of a number of states claim that abuses of these laws have cut sharply into gasoline tax net receipts.



Brahma cattle on J. D. Hudgins estate, Wharton County, Tex. (A. & M. photo)

TEXAS CATTLE

(Continued from Page 11)

almost as readily as the smaller stock growers. Overgrazing further complicated an industry already in the throes of a life or death struggle. By 1898 H. L. Bentley officially reported that some stockmen considered that in parts of Texas "the injury has gone almost past the point where redemption is possible." "Ranges that should have carried a cow on every 40 acres had one on every 10 acres."

A reorganized industry began in 1894 to condition itself to the situation. The longhorn rapidly passed from the scene as cattlemen found the new range-feeder conditions better suited to the heavier well bred white-faced Herefords. A sharp improvement was noted up to 1900 when a sharp break in the price of cattle brought another prolonged period of depression. Some 75 per cent of the cattle companies and individual stockmen in business in 1885 had failed or otherwise withdrawn from the livestock business by 1905. Although the number of Texas cattle never approached the peak of 9,805,000 noted in 1891, the average price per head improved materially from 1906 through the period of the first World War when, in 1920, an all-time high of \$43.90 was recorded. Texas cattle showed marked improvement in quality during this period, with purebred stock from local herds finding ready markets in other cattle raising states. The effect of the primary and secondary depressions following the war are clearly evident in the chart accompanying this article. Texas ranges suffered materially during the period preceding the outbreak of the second World War, but the combined cooperation of stockmen and their organizations with the conservation and rehabilitation programs of both state and federal governments placed the

Texas industry in the position to render an invaluable contribution to victory. The more than 7,500,000 head of fine beef stock now on the Texas ranges will do much to rehabilitate and revitalize the starved and exhausted war torn countries of the world.

FORESEES LOW LOAN RATES

I. W. Duggan, governor of the Farm Credit Administration, stated in a recent address that interest rates on agricultural loans will probably be low for many years to come. He said one reason these are likely to be held down is the large national debt and the probable desire of the government to make charges on such debts as light as possible.

* * *

A recent survey made by the American Bankers Association shows that farmers of the nation are currently using only a fourth of the bank credit available to them.

NEW MEAT SERVICE PLANTS

New custom slaughter services being envisioned for the future are declared to work to particular advantage for the farmer, who, in the past, could slaughter only during cold weather and had to eat cured or smoked meat. Now he can bring in any kind of meat, either on the hoof or already killed—beef, hogs, chickens, etc., any time of the year. It is killed, if necessary, cut, wrapped and frozen—at a cost of 3 cents per pound. It can then go to the farmer's locker, to be taken out any time—even next year. Depending on location, it costs \$12, \$14 or \$15 a year, and holds about 200 pounds.

This month is pictured a group of Callaghan Land and Pastoral Co. cowboys. The Callaghan ranch is located at Encinal, Tex.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Soap in the Care of Cattle and Horses

By Georgia Leffingwell, Ph. D.
and Milton A. Lesser, B. Sc.

LIVESTOCK MEN AND BREEDERS know that an effective sanitation program is a prime requisite in controlling the insect pests and parasitic enemies that ravage herds and reduce their value. The first item in any such program is plain soap-and-water cleanliness.

The value of soap to the stockman, however, depends upon a combination of properties. Because it is a good emulsifying agent it is extensively employed to stabilize ordinarily immiscible liquids, like oil and water used in the production of insect-combatting materials, and other products. On account of its low surface tension it imparts to an insecticide good "wetting" and "spreading" properties.

As remarked by one expert, the importance of cleanliness in the care of animals cannot be overemphasized. With clean animals in clean surroundings usually there will be no need for disinfectants unless disease breaks out.

The appearance of disease among animals calls for the combined offices of cleanliness and disinfection. Soap has some antibacterial action of its own, but it is not generally classed as a disinfectant. Cleaning with soap and water serves to kill some organisms, but the most important effect is the mechanical removal of the dirt and infective materials which foster bacterial and other parasitic growth. Since organic matter serves to protect pathogenic organisms and otherwise interferes with the activity of disinfectants, a thorough cleaning with soap and hot water should always precede the application of disinfectants.

Probably the best known disinfectant is a soap solution of cresol, officially called Compound Solution of Cresol U.S.P. There is also a less expensive substitute, known as saponified cresol or cresylic disinfectant. This is extensively used for disinfection under the supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry. Saponified cresol is usually employed in an aqueous solution in the proportion of 4 ounces per gallon of water.

During recent years pine oil disinfectants have become popular, often replacing coal tar products because of their more pleasing odor. As a general rule, the better grades of pine oil disinfectants are made with vegetable oil soaps. Thus, a 30 per cent coconut potash soap may be used in the following proportions to make a suitable disinfectant of this type:

Pine oil.....60 per cent
Vegetable oil soap.....40 per cent

To help promote sanitation and to destroy stable odors, this composition is applied as a spray made by dissolving one part of the disinfectant in 40 parts of water.

Thorough cleaning and disinfection of livestock pens and yards as a regular procedure not only prevents disease, but discourages insects. When actual infestation occurs, special treatments become necessary, involving the use of insecticides.

Soap is extensively employed in preparing fly sprays suitable for use in both barns and stables. Note the following fly spray concentrate which should be diluted with water in the proportions of 1 to 3 prior to use:

Tinc. of pyrethrum flowers 50 parts
Soft soap.....18 parts
Glycerine.....24 parts
Carton tetrachloride.....739 parts

If properly prepared and applied, the kerosene types of sprays may be depended upon to act as effective repellents for flies. One soap-utilizing repellent for stable and horse flies, based on the use of kerosene, is made of:

Naphthalene26.5 Gm.
Kerosene.....100.0 cc.
Hard soap.....40.0 Gm.
Water, to make.....1000.0 cc

This repellent may be used in a spray gun or applied in other ways for both cattle and horses. Said to be stainless, this repellent will not "gum up" on the coat.

Sprays of this type are generally used before milking to quiet the animals. In large dairies, the use of a suitable repellent spray before milking saves time in hooking up the animal to the automatic milking machine. However, effective insect control is an extremely important factor in the breeding and raising of cat-

tle. Cattle plagued by insects lose weight and energy, and their milk production and market value are lowered. Soap has proved to be a valuable component of many of the insecticides designed to combat both flying and crawling pests.

An effective preparation against buffalo gnats (also known as black flies) is made by boiling 8 ounces of soap in 1 gallon of water, and then adding 6 ounces of refined pine-tar oil slowly while stirring vigorously. By mopping this material on an animal in the morning and giving light spraying during the day as needed, comparative freedom from gnats is obtained.

Cattle infested with lice present a noticeably poor appearance. Where few animals are infested or when the number of cattle to be treated is too small to warrant dipping, hand treatment can be very effective. Among the most dependable insecticides for such applications is the standard derris-powder wash recommended by the Department of Agriculture. To be made just before use, this wash is prepared by dissolving soap flakes in warm water in the proportion of 4 ounces of soap to each gallon of water; derris powder, containing 4 per cent to rotenone is then added in the proportion of 16 ounces of powder to each gallon of soapy water. When this is well stirred it is ready to use.

An inexpensive and efficient spray for both sucking and biting lice is described in an official Canadian text as follows:

Soft soap.....1 qt.
Hard soap.....¼ lb.
Kerosene.....1 pt.
Soft water.....2 qts.

Mix the soft soap and finely shaved hard soap with the hot water to cause solution, then add the kerosene and stir vigorously until a creamy emulsion forms. Before using add a gallon of water. This kerosene emulsion can be applied as a spray or with a brush.

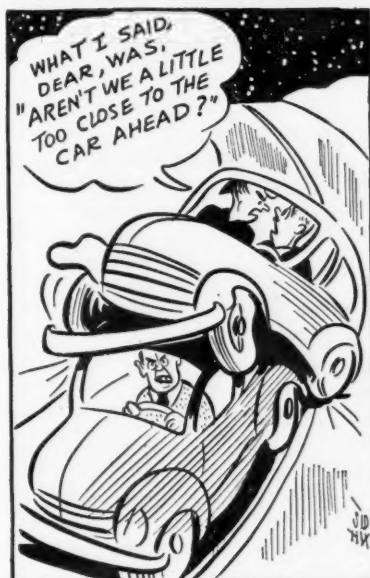
Losses amounting to millions of dollars annually are caused by warble flies, or, more exactly, their grubs. Derris-soap wash is prominent among the substances used for killing the grubs while under the hide in cattle. The following wash, briskly rubbed in with a stiff fiber brush, has given "excellent" results:

Soap.....4 oz.
Derris powder.....12 oz.
(4 per cent rotenone)
Water.....1 gal.

Recent studies have shown that a satisfactory wash for destroying cattle grubs may be prepared from 12 ounces of ground cube or derris and 4 ounces of granular laundry soap per gallon of warm water. In England, warble fly dressing is made of derris resins or rotenone powder plus soap powder. This is used as a dry dusting powder or as a spray after mixing with water.

Soap is also a frequent component of warble fly repellent. In Europe, expressed oil of bay, obtained from laurel berries, is a popular constituent of such repellents, as in the following:

QUIT YOUR SKIDDING



Follow other vehicles at a safe distance. It takes from 3 to 11 times as long to stop when pavements are snowy or icy.

would ask a special session of the Colorado legislature, scheduled to open Nov. 19, to submit to the people at the 1946 general election the question of whether additional gasoline taxes should be enacted to raise that state's share of the third year of participation in the post-war federal-state highway construction program. It was proposed to meet the first two years' allocation of federal money by appropriation from surplus general funds. Governor Vivian believes that it will not be necessary to levy added taxes, but there has been strong contrary pressure. An increase of 2 cents per gallon in the state's gasoline tax was proposed by the State Highway Advisory Board to finance a \$150,000,000 long-range highway program.

Pressure from counties and cities for added slices of state funds to aid the localities in their road building is mounting in many states and will increasingly tend to swell the demand for higher state levies. In addition to the three billion dollar federal-state program, it is estimated that one and a half billion will be spent annually on county roads and city streets outside the federal-aid system. The cities and counties are turning to state capitals for help for such funds.

As against the gloomy outlook for a flood of new tax proposals, there are a number of offsetting factors which may tend to minimize the threat. One of the most important of these is the question of how soon gasoline and other automotive taxes will return to their pre-war yields. Gasoline tax receipts have mounted sharply since V-J Day and were on the uptrend even before that. Continuation of this trend may serve to ward off increased taxes in several states.

Also figuring prominently in the situation will be the extent to which general state funds are used to augment highway revenues in financing post-war road construction. With general taxes having produced swollen yields during the war boom years, while driving restrictions kept automotive tax receipts down, the use of surplus general funds for highway construction, as is already contemplated in a number of states, can go far toward solving the highway financing problem.

Since more than two billion dollars of highway-user tax receipts have been in the past diverted to general purposes, the return of some of this revenue would not be out of order, in the opinion of highway advocates. To what extent the practice of misusing highway-user tax receipts is further curbed in the future will also have a major bearing on the ability of some states to finance their road construction programs without added taxes.

Whether or not gasoline tax evasion is curbed also will have a bearing on the highway financing issue. Many states have laws exempting agricultural and other non-highway users from gasoline taxes. Officials of a number of states claim that abuses of these laws have cut sharply into gasoline tax net receipts.



Brahma cattle on J. D. Hudgins estate, Wharton County, Tex. (A. & M. photo)

TEXAS CATTLE

(Continued from Page 11)

almost as readily as the smaller stock growers. Overgrazing further complicated an industry already in the throes of a life or death struggle. By 1898 H. L. Bentley officially reported that some stockmen considered that in parts of Texas "the injury has gone almost past the point where redemption is possible." "Ranges that should have carried a cow on every 40 acres had one on every 10 acres."

A reorganized industry began in 1894 to condition itself to the situation. The longhorn rapidly passed from the scene as cattlemen found the new range-feeder conditions better suited to the heavier well bred white-faced Herefords. A sharp improvement was noted up to 1900 when a sharp break in the price of cattle brought another prolonged period of depression. Some 75 per cent of the cattle companies and individual stockmen in business in 1885 had failed or otherwise withdrawn from the livestock business by 1905. Although the number of Texas cattle never approached the peak of 9,805,000 noted in 1891, the average price per head improved materially from 1906 through the period of the first World War when, in 1920, an all-time high of \$43.90 was recorded. Texas cattle showed marked improvement in quality during this period, with purebred stock from local herds finding ready markets in other cattle raising states. The effect of the primary and secondary depressions following the war are clearly evident in the chart accompanying this article. Texas ranges suffered materially during the period preceding the outbreak of the second World War, but the combined cooperation of stockmen and their organizations with the conservation and rehabilitation programs of both state and federal governments placed the

Texas industry in the position to render an invaluable contribution to victory. The more than 7,500,000 head of fine beef stock now on the Texas ranges will do much to rehabilitate and revitalize the starved and exhausted war torn countries of the world.

FORESEES LOW LOAN RATES

I. W. Duggan, governor of the Farm Credit Administration, stated in a recent address that interest rates on agricultural loans will probably be low for many years to come. He said one reason these are likely to be held down is the large national debt and the probable desire of the government to make charges on such debts as light as possible.

* * *

A recent survey made by the American Bankers Association shows that farmers of the nation are currently using only a fourth of the bank credit available to them.

NEW MEAT SERVICE PLANTS

New custom slaughter services being envisioned for the future are declared to work to particular advantage for the farmer, who, in the past, could slaughter only during cold weather and had to eat cured or smoked meat. Now he can bring in any kind of meat, either on the hoof or already killed—beef, hogs, chickens, etc., any time of the year. It is killed, if necessary, cut, wrapped and frozen—at a cost of 3 cents per pound. It can then go to the farmer's locker, to be taken out any time—even next year. Depending on location, it costs \$12, \$14 or \$15 a year, and holds about 200 pounds.

This month is pictured a group of Callaghan Land and Pastoral Co. cowboys. The Callaghan ranch is located at Encinal, Tex.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Soap in the Care of Cattle and Horses

By Georgia Leffingwell, Ph. D.
and Milton A. Lesser, B. Sc.

LIVESTOCK MEN AND BREEDERS
Know that an effective sanitation program is a prime requisite in controlling the insect pests and parasitic enemies that ravage herds and reduce their value. The first item in any such program is plain soap-and-water cleanliness.

The value of soap to the stockman, however, depends upon a combination of properties. Because it is a good emulsifying agent it is extensively employed to stabilize ordinarily immiscible liquids, like oil and water used in the production of insect-combatting materials, and other products. On account of its low surface tension it imparts to an insecticide good "wetting" and "spreading" properties.

As remarked by one expert, the importance of cleanliness in the care of animals cannot be overemphasized. With clean animals in clean surroundings usually there will be no need for disinfectants unless disease breaks out.

The appearance of disease among animals calls for the combined offices of cleanliness and disinfection. Soap has some antibacterial action of its own, but it is not generally classed as a disinfectant. Cleaning with soap and water serves to kill some organisms, but the most important effect is the mechanical removal of the dirt and infective materials which foster bacterial and other parasitic growth. Since organic matter serves to protect pathogenic organisms and otherwise interferes with the activity of disinfectants, a thorough cleaning with soap and hot water should always precede the application of disinfectants.

Probably the best known disinfectant is a soap solution of cresol, officially called Compound Solution of Cresol U.S.P. There is also a less expensive substitute, known as saponified cresol or cresylic disinfectant. This is extensively used for disinfection under the supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry. Saponified cresol is usually employed in an aqueous solution in the proportion of 4 ounces per gallon of water.

During recent years pine oil disinfectants have become popular, often replacing coal tar products because of their more pleasing odor. As a general rule, the better grades of pine oil disinfectants are made with vegetable oil soaps. Thus, a 30 per cent coconut potash soap may be used in the following proportions to make a suitable disinfectant of this type:

Pine oil.....60 per cent
Vegetable oil soap.....40 per cent

To help promote sanitation and to destroy stable odors, this composition is applied as a spray made by dissolving one part of the disinfectant in 40 parts of water.

Thorough cleaning and disinfection of livestock pens and yards as a regular procedure not only prevents disease, but discourages insects. When actual infestation occurs, special treatments become necessary, involving the use of insecticides.

Soap is extensively employed in preparing fly sprays suitable for use in both barns and stables. Note the following fly spray concentrate which should be diluted with water in the proportions of 1 to 3 prior to use:

Tinc. of pyrethrum flowers 50 parts
Soft soap.....18 parts
Glycerine.....24 parts
Carton tetrachloride.....739 parts

If properly prepared and applied, the kerosene types of sprays may be depended upon to act as effective repellents for flies. One soap-utilizing repellent for stable and horse flies, based on the use of kerosene, is made of:

Naphthalene26.5 Gm.
Kerosene.....100.0 cc.
Hard soap.....40.0 Gm.
Water, to make.....1000.0 cc

This repellent may be used in a spray gun or applied in other ways for both cattle and horses. Said to be stainless, this repellent will not "gum up" on the coat.

Sprays of this type are generally used before milking to quiet the animals. In large dairies, the use of a suitable repellent spray before milking saves time in hooking up the animal to the automatic milking machine. However, effective insect control is an extremely important factor in the breeding and raising of cat-

tle. Cattle plagued by insects lose weight and energy, and their milk production and market value are lowered. Soap has proved to be a valuable component of many of the insecticides designed to combat both flying and crawling pests.

An effective preparation against buffalo gnats (also known as black flies) is made by boiling 8 ounces of soap in 1 gallon of water, and then adding 6 ounces of refined pine-tar oil slowly while stirring vigorously. By mopping this material on an animal in the morning and giving light spraying during the day as needed, comparative freedom from gnats is obtained.

Cattle infested with lice present a noticeably poor appearance. Where few animals are infested or when the number of cattle to be treated is too small to warrant dipping, hand treatment can be very effective. Among the most dependable insecticides for such applications is the standard derris-powder wash recommended by the Department of Agriculture. To be made just before use, this wash is prepared by dissolving soap flakes in warm water in the proportion of 4 ounces of soap to each gallon of water; derris powder, containing 4 per cent to rotenone is then added in the proportion of 16 ounces of powder to each gallon of soapy water. When this is well stirred it is ready to use.

An inexpensive and efficient spray for both sucking and biting lice is described in an official Canadian text as follows:

Soft soap.....1 qt.
Hard soap.....¼ lb.
Kerosene.....1 pt.
Soft water.....2 qts.

Mix the soft soap and finely shaved hard soap with the hot water to cause solution, then add the kerosene and stir vigorously until a creamy emulsion forms. Before using add a gallon of water. This kerosene emulsion can be applied as a spray or with a brush.

Losses amounting to millions of dollars annually are caused by warble flies, or, more exactly, their grubs. Derris-soap wash is prominent among the substances used for killing the grubs while under the hide in cattle. The following wash, briskly rubbed in with a stiff fiber brush, has given "excellent" results:

Soap.....4 oz.
Derris powder.....12 oz.
(4 per cent rotenone)
Water.....1 gal.

Recent studies have shown that a satisfactory wash for destroying cattle grubs may be prepared from 12 ounces of ground cube or derris and 4 ounces of granular laundry soap per gallon of warm water. In England, warble fly dressing is made of derris resins or rotenone powder plus soap powder. This is used as a dry dusting powder or as a spray after mixing with water.

Soap is also a frequent component of warble fly repellent. In Europe, expressed oil of bay, obtained from laurel berries, is a popular constituent of such repellents, as in the following:



Follow other vehicles at a safe distance. It takes from 3 to 11 times as long to stop when pavements are snowy or icy.

Expressed oil of bay..... 3 parts
Soft soap.....24 parts
Water.....24 parts

Heat on a bath until uniform. When cool stir in:

Petroleum..... 4 parts

Soap is an important aid in the treatment of infectious diseases. For skin diseases like erythema or impetigo, washing with soap and water is essential prior to the application of medicinal agents. The utmost cleanliness is a prime requisite in the prevention and control of infectious diarrhea (white scours) during the first few days of a calf's life. Shortly before calving, the external genitals and adjacent parts should be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected with a 3 per cent solution of compound solution of cresol. Soap and water washing is, of course, of primary importance in any case of surgical intervention. The preparation of a calf for dehorning calls first for clipping the hair from the parts, washing clean with soap and water and thorough drying.

Rectal injections or enemas for the treatment of constipation in cattle generally employ a soapy solution of warm water. Any return of constipation after the administration of laxatives for indigestion must be treated in this way.

Before leaving this section on cattle care, mention should be made of another useful soap-containing composition; namely, a blue cattle-marking crayon. To be shaped in suitable molds and dried, such a crayon is made from:

Soapstone powder..... 28 parts
Gypsum powder.....21 parts
Chinese blue..... 2 parts
White soap powder.....10 parts
Glue (2 per cent solution)....

.....sufficient to make a paste

Aside from its use in the basic cleanliness and sanitation programs common to all phases of livestock care, soap enters into many products of value in keeping horses healthy.

It is useful, for example, in sprays designed to protect against insects. Thomsen and Doner cite the following composition which government workers found capable of repelling horse bots for four days:

Pine tar.....3¼ oz.
Kerosene.....1¼ oz.
Laundry soap..... 1 oz.
Powdered resin..... 1 oz.
Hot water, to make..... 14 oz.

These authorities cite the fact that a similar soap-utilizing emulsion has been recommended by the Utah Agricultural Station.

Ticks, insects that are both annoying and dangerous, may be fought with derris-soap washes. Government authorities state that mopping infested animals with the following mixture will probably kill all the ticks with which the wash is brought in contact:

Finely ground derris.....2 oz.
(5 per cent rotenone)
Neutral soap.....2 oz.
Water.....1 gal.

Of course, clean stables and regular grooming are of the greatest importance in promoting the general health of equines and in preventing and treating diseases of the skin. In addition, soap finds a place in a number of external preparations for the care and treatment of horses. It is quite extensively used in making horse liniments. The so-called "sweating" liniments, used for the reduction of splints, ringbones and simi-

A Dumb Brute Talks

By W. Weare

A dreamer back in Washington awakened with a shout; his heels had slipped from off the desk, his chair spun roundabout. "What-ho!" he cried, "I've had a dream! I'll save the beef and lamb! I'll make the people eat the grain as someone said they can." He let us steers roam 'round the hills and graze the whole day through—the ewes and lambs and spotted pigs had little else to do; for if the farmer fed us grain to make us round and fat he'd probably lose 'most his shirt, besides his shoes and hat. No one could know from day to day what order might come out to wreck the program he had set, and change it round about. But should a feeder have good luck and make a profit clear, 'twould take a former F.B.I. to follow up that steer. They'd say that meat was very scarce 'way down in San Antone, then on the way they'd switch the car and route it off for Rome. We grew in numbers year by year, though mostly hair and hide; and people couldn't get the meat no matter how they tried. 'Twas points for this, and points for that, and even for a stew the butcher took their ration books and tore them half in two. So while the people ate the corn we steers grew tall and lank; the moss upon our hardened horns grew thick, and long and dank. 'Most everything was in a mess from New York to the Coast; some people fought for oats and eggs, while some ate ham and roast. Some day he'll hear about demand, perhaps about supply, and let the market take its course as in the years gone by. Then steers will eat the grain again, and people eat the meat—we'll pray for guidance from above around that swiveled seat.—HUGO THE HEREFORD.

lar enlargements, are applied with friction until moisture exudes, then discontinued for several days and again applied. One such liniment may be made from:

Camphor.....1½ parts
Soft soap..... 5 parts
Oil of rosemary..... 1 part
Ammonia water..... 3 parts
Alcohol..... 20 parts
Water..... 7 parts

A stimulating liniment for horses is giving in a leading reference text, as containing:

Tincture of capsicum..... 16 cc.
Tincture of cantharides..... 16 cc.
Camphor and soap liniment.... 125 cc.
Alcohol..... 250 cc.
Water, to make.....1000 cc.

For treating founder, the following rather old-fashioned mixture has been recommended as a suitable application for rubbing the legs three times during the day and at night:

Soap liniment.....3 oz.
Oil of peppermint.....2 dr.
Ammonia water.....1 oz.
Spirits of camphor.....1 oz.
Oil of turpentine.....4 dr.
Tincture of capsicum.....2 dr.
Tincture of opium.....4 dr.
Petroleum.....2 oz.

The same source lists the following preparation for treating lameness. However, it is stressed that the use of this preparation alone does not result in cure, nor is it suitable in cases of lameness of long standing:

Oil of origanum..... ½ oz.
Soap liniment..... 1 oz.
Tincture of opium..... 1 oz.
Spirits of turpentine.....1½ oz.
Spirits of hartshorn..... 2 oz.
Spirits of camphor.....2½ oz.

Soap is a standard component of horse hoof greases, as indicated in the following typical formula:

Hog fat.....40 parts
Cod liver oil.....20 parts
Beef tallow.....15 parts
Woolfat..... 5 parts
Charcoal..... 5 parts
Potash soap..... 5 parts
Water.....10 parts

In making pills or such, soap is sometimes used as a massing agent for the medicinal ingredients. It is not surprising that it should be so used in making horse physic balls, as in the following procedure recommended in a British reference text:

Barbados aloes.....13½ lb.
Soap..... 4½ lb.
Potassium carbonate..... 18 oz.
Oil of anise..... 6 oz.
Water..... 20 oz.

After mixing, the mass is divided into suitable balls, the size of the physic dose being determined largely by the weight of the animal to be treated.

SAFeway TO TAPER OFF FEEDING OPERATIONS

In a booklet giving "The Official Record of the Wartime Meat Supply of Safeway Stores," we read that Safeway will discontinue cattle feeding operations "except for those necessary to equalize the day-to-day supply or to protect its operations from the effect of new government regulations," as soon as sufficient fed stock is available. The booklet explains that Safeway went into the packing business to protect its retail meat service; that, as the war progressed, suppliers provided less and less beef for sale by Safeway. The booklet does not say what Safeway intends to do with the packing plants acquired during the war period.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

BEEF CATTLE FEEDING

E. R. McINTYRE, writing in his press service release from the office of information, USDA, reviews that department's Technical Bulletin 900, concerning feeding of beef cattle. To quote from it: "If no cattle were fattened in the Corn Belt beyond the average of good slaughter grade, about 1,700,000 additional head of cattle could be fattened annually with the concentrates normally used to fatten cattle in this area." (Good slaughter grade is explained as the point where the carcass has the maximum amount of fat the average consumer will eat along with the lean meat.) The inference is, therefore, that the result of such general action would be an increase above normal production of about 15 per cent in live weight and about 25 per cent in aggregate amounts of protein, ash and fat yielded for human food, consumed directly as beef.

The bulletin points out that those who have rated cattle below other kinds of livestock in efficient use of feed have overlooked two things: (1) full consideration is not given to the change that occurs in the food-nutrient content of beef carcasses during the feeding process, and (2) that as a rule "long-fed" steers are compared with "whole milk" dairying. Usually only the net gain in live weight is considered, whereas the dressing percentages of the carcass have been increased and the finished carcass is much improved in its food nutrients. In a medium to good grade 600-pound feeder steer after it has been fattened to 950 pounds the weight has increased only 58 per cent, but the increase in calories is 149 per cent, fat 196 per cent and protein 54 per cent. Long-fed cattle on full feed usually use concentrates less efficiently, so comparing dairying with beef raising on the basis of long-feds is not deemed fair. Interesting data from a table in the bulletin compares the edible products and food nutrients produced by 1,000 feed units when fed to fattened cattle and other livestock.

Assuming a medium to good grade 600-pound feeder steer fattened to 950 pounds, including allowance for pork and lard made on feed wasted by cattle and eaten by hogs following steers, this is the conclusion: Yield of 1,000 units of feed consumed would be 76 pounds of edible product, 157,000 calories, 36 pounds of fat, 8 pounds of protein. Then the other livestock would yield per 1,000 units of feed as follows by comparison:

	Edible Products (lbs.)	Calories	Fat (lbs.)	Protein (lbs.)
DAIRY COWS				
Whole milk	901	276,000	34	31
Butter	60	212,000	51	2
HOGS				
Pork and lard	135	349,000	80	13
CHICKENS				
Eggs	165	113,000	18	20
Chickens	103	83,000	12	19

AN EXPERIMENT IN WINTER RATIONS

Objectives of an experiment at Michigan State College reported by G. A. Branaman of the animal husbandry section, were (1) to produce two groups of yearlings that would be suitable for pasture in the spring, one group in rather thin flesh and another with more weight and considerably more flesh, and (2) to compare corn silage and hay as basic feeds constituting the bulk of the ration.

Weights, gains, rations, feeds and costs are given in Table 1. The corn silage fed was of good quality, medium in ears and harvested when denting. The hay fed during the early period was excellent quality, mostly red clover with alfalfa, while the remainder was alfalfa with brome and timothy that had been field baled in 1942.

The calves in Lot 2 ate 5 pounds of corn daily during the first 85 days and

8 pounds during the last 42 days. Those in Lot 3 ate 3 pounds during the last 42 days but received no corn the first 85 days. Those in Lot 1 were fed the same amount of corn continuously.

Cheapest gains were made by the heaviest and fattest steers in Lot 3 fed the heavy silage ration, with the protein supplement and with limited corn toward spring. Their gains were much cheaper than the other fast gaining calves in Lot 2.

Cost of gains in Lot 4 was slightly cheaper than in Lot 2 but the calves were about 100 pounds lighter and much thinner. Those in Lot 1 were slightly heavier and fatter than Lot 4 calves but their cost was much the highest of all. Rate of gain is not so much a factor unless either cost of gain or finish, with consequent sale value, or both, is affected.

The report concluded that it seems clear that corn silage is a very valuable feed for steers.

Table 1—Weights, Gains, Feed and Costs for Wintering Steers

Dec. 27, 1944-May 28, 1945—152 days (12 steers per lot)	Lot 1— hay	Lot 2— hay	Lot 3— silage	Lot 4— silage
Average initial weight	440.6	434.2	436.4	435.7
Average final weight	585.4	664.2	685.4	566.7
Average gain per head	144.8	230.0	249.0	131.0
Average daily gain	0.95	1.51	1.64	0.86
Total feed per head:				
Ground corn	316	928	186	
Soybean oilmeal			184	
Corn silage			3,426	2,442
Legume hay	1,898	1,628	542	1,049
Average daily ration (pounds)				
Ground corn	2.1	6.1	1.2	
Soybean oilmeal			1.2	
Corn silage			22.5	16.1
Legume hay	12.5	10.7	3.6	6.9
Feed for 100 pounds of gain (pounds)				
Ground corn	218	403	75	
Soybean oilmeal			74	
Corn silage			1,376	1,864
Legume hay	1,310	708	217	801
Cost for 100 pounds gain	\$18.02	\$16.16	\$11.24	\$15.00
Feed prices: Corn \$45; Soybean meal \$60; Silage \$7.50; Hay \$20 per ton.				

(Note that the dairy item includes pork and lard made from skim milk also.)

About 11 billion pounds of grain per year (equal to 200,000,000 bushels of corn) and about 275,000 tons of protein supplement were fed to fattened steers on grain feed in the Corn Belt during the period 1938-42, the bulletin estimates. About 25 per cent was fed to calves, 40 per cent to 500-700-pound feeders and 35 per cent to feeders going in the lots at 750 pounds and over.

AIR FREIGHT COSTS

A recent item quotes a leading airline company plan for air freight service from the West Coast to New York, specifically, as costing a shipper "as low as 37 cents a pound." Says the Omaha Journal-Stockman: "... there seems little or no likelihood of air competition with the railroads and trucks for the nation's livestock and meat hauling business."

URGES VETS TO AVOID HEAVY LAND DEBTS

In the opinion of a Washington extension economist in farm management, Arthur J. Cagle, the veteran with only a small amount of money to invest, even though he is able to buy a farm with the aid of the GI loan guarantee, would do well to rent the land, rather than buy. Although acknowledging that owning a farm is almost always a desirable goal, the economist believes many veterans with limited finances will find it more satisfactory to rent a good farm for a few years and use present capital and loan funds to buy livestock and machinery and for operating expenses during the first year.

A lease tenure of at least three to five years is suggested, Mr. Cagle believing that "at the end of that time (the veteran) should be better able to buy a farm and have the advantage of several years' experience."

Washington Notes

Several bills are in the legislative hopper to change parity, either by a shift in the base period, which is 1909-14, or by inclusion of agricultural labor costs in the formula. The Pace bill would include labor costs; the Thomas bill would include labor and change the base period to 1919-29.

In a letter to the executive committee of the American National Live Stock Association, Secretary F. E. Mollin says about this legislation: "It has been our common practice to assume that the original period was very unfavorable to beef cattle, but an examination of the records since that time does not seem to bear out the assumption." He says that the only times in 35 years when actual prices have got above parity to any extent were toward the end of the first World War, in the 1929 boom and since 1940.

Under the Thomas bill, little change in cattle parity would be made; under the Pace bill, an advance would be the result. But under both bills parity on corn, for instance, would be raised, and thus feeders would have no alternative but to buy their feeder cattle at a lower price. Cattle do not fall under any government support program (the subsidy is not involved here); corn does. Therefore any increase in parity for cattle would only show up on a scrap of paper; increases in corn parity would be real, supported by government corn loans.

As Mr. Mollin views it, the cattle industry cannot at this time support either of these measures, nor is he inclined actively to oppose the changes which are sought by at least one of the major farm organizations.

QUIT YOUR SKIDDING



Avoid making a quick stop in front of another vehicle. A rear-end collision may result.

A measure pointed at the prevention of duplicate subsidy payments on cattle is the new ruling that a cattle seller applying to the CCC for feeder subsidy must now submit to his county AAA committee a certification from the buyer that the cattle were bought for slaughter or to be delivered for slaughter within 29 days of sale date. Thus, all cattle purchasers—slaughterers, order buyers or other agents, and regardless of whether the cattle are bought at public market or direct from producers—must deliver such certification to the seller of each lot of animals.

The Department of Agriculture's Production and Marketing Administration has dissolved the War Meat Board. But because of the "valuable information and service this board has rendered the government during the war" and the possibility of its value in post-war, the group is to be retained as USDA's Meat Board. It will serve in an advisory capacity in production and distribution matters. Members of the board are Gerald B. Thorne, Archie L. Scott, Walter A. Netsch, and Gus Robert of Chicago; Ralph Daigneau of Austin, Minn.; Harold Meyer of Cincinnati; John Heinz of Baltimore, and George Abraham of Memphis.

Pork products shipped to the West Coast will be restricted, under an announced OPA order, to 85 per cent of the pork shipped during the first quarter of 1944. This order follows a lowering of freight rates on fresh meats to the West Coast by about 35 per cent, and is related to that reduction.

From Washington has come the informal announcement that practically all the direct subsidies on farm products will end next June 30. Altogether, the government is paying \$1,798,000,000 a year on food subsidies.

A 1946 spring pig crop goal about equal to that of 1945—52,000,000 head—and an average support price for good to choice butcher hogs of \$12 per cwt., Chicago basis, effective Oct. 1, 1946, to Sept. 30, 1947, have been announced.

USDA VIEW OF FUTURE

In a 1946 "outlook" report issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture, the following interesting statements appear:

1. Returns from sales of meat animals probably will average moderately lower in 1946 than in 1945. The supply of meat in 1946 is likely to be about in balance with demand at the 1945 level of wholesale and retail prices.

2. If subsidy payments to slaughterers are removed in 1946, some decline in cattle and hog prices is likely to occur.

Slaughter subsidies on cattle vary from \$1.25 to \$3 per 100 pounds live weight, depending on grade, when cattle are sold at the top of the stabilization

price range. Payments on hog slaughter amount to \$1.70. Direct payments to ranchers of 50 cents per 100 pounds are made on the better grades of cattle weighing 800 pounds and over when sold for slaughter. The sheep and lamb payments vary from \$1 to \$3.15.

3. Production of meat in the United States is expected to total 160 to 165 pounds per capita in 1946. The supply available for domestic consumption (civilian and military) probably will not exceed 155 pounds per capita.

4. Output of meat in 1946 will continue at or moderately above the 1945 level. Cattle numbers will tend to decline from present near-record levels; a continued large cattle slaughter is likely for the next two or three years. Pork production may be moderately greater in 1946 than in 1945, even if market weights of hogs are reduced. Output of lamb and mutton will be reduced in 1946.

New Meat Campaign

To capitalize on the high place which meat now holds in the nation's diet and to get more of it eaten in 1946, the meat educational program of the American Meat Institute is soon launching a campaign of mouth watering advertising in national magazines and daily newspapers, to reach millions of consumers.

The meat industry expects that livestock will be marketed next year in numbers to produce meat for American consumers at the rate of around 150 pounds per person, or about 24 pounds more per person per year than in 1935-39. Meat now is foremost in the minds of most people when they think of good, nutritious, tasty food and, in the words of the institute, "our purpose is to keep it that way." The plan is to keep before the public, through the medium of ads in many journals in the medical and related fields where they can be channeled by way of the professions, that meat is important in the diet of people in robust good health, as well as for people who may be ill.

THE VALUE OF WOOL TICKLE

The director of the Wool Industries Research Association, Dr. R. H. Wilson, points to the possibility that "... a degree of tickle may be a definite hygienic value in stimulating the skin and controlling the peripheral circulation." The statement was contained in his recent annual report, which also referred to the association's experiments directed toward an elimination of such a "tickle" in wool.

Figures compiled at the agronomy department at one of our western state colleges reveals that each ton of straw contains 10 pounds of nitrogen, 2 pounds of phosphorus and 20 pounds of potassium. And besides, each ton of dry straw contains enough material which, when well rotted, would supply 200 pounds of organic matter to the soil.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Song for a Cowboy Soldier

*I saw him ride at morning,
With young eyes grave and tense,
When day was just a-borning
In rosy innocence.*

*I hailed and gave him greeting,
And asked his health and store.
He said we would be meeting
Again, perhaps, no more.*

*I somehow missed his meaning,
And cautioned him to stay:
He said when plains were greening
He would be far away.*

*He stroked the pinto's forehead,
And eyed her hungrily—
As one, with moments borrowed,
Devours them greedily.*

*From youth he was her lover,
But childhood now was past;
Together they would cover
The trail today—their last.*

*Now he was young and ruddy,
To utter words so strange;
What was this "roundup bloody"?
And on a "foreign range"?*

*He rode into the dawning,
I watched the sun's red tongue
Lap up the dusk's white spawning—
And pondered on the young.*

*I watched the heat waves quiver
Across the sands accursed—
And form into a river
That only mocked the thirst.*

*I watched the gray hawk homing,
With plumage sunset-burned;
And stars prick lilac gloaming—
But he had not returned.*

*I watched till day was cleaving
A blood-streaked eastern sky—
And saw a lone horse, grieving
And, riderless, jog by.*

JESSIE WILMORE MURTON.

Traffic Notes

The traffic managers of the American National Live Stock Association, Calvin L. Blaine and Chas. E. Blaine, Phoenix, Ariz., have presented to the House of Representatives' Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce a comprehensive discussion on the ills of our present-day transportation facilities. Many valuable suggestions are given to the committee in the document. It is of interest to note that the traffic managers suggest that, in view of the strong competition in the transportation field, all rail lines should be merged under one system.

A 3-cent charge for bridge toll or river crossings at Memphis and south thereof on livestock from points in Western Trunk Line territory is now to be cancelled. Like action is expected with respect to Mountain Pacific territory. Formal complaint asking for the cancellation of the charge was made by producer representatives who also attended hearings in the matter at Memphis. Chas. Stewart, of the Ft. Worth Traffic Association, appeared for the American National in the place of Chas. E. Blaine, the association traffic manager, who was occupied with another case.

The Interstate Commerce Commission on Oct. 30 denied the petition of the Department of Agriculture and others to terminate an ICC order (which increased rates and subsequently suspended the increase at a date six months after V-J Day. The ICC instead called for termination of the suspended order six months after legal end of the war. Several state utility commissions have entered similar orders. The order does not change freight rates, because suspension of the increases had been in effect, to terminate the first of next

year. What it does mean is that the possibility of an increase in rail rates hangs over the industry in the form of a suspended order entered because of the war emergency.

Last month we said that you could again use the "trailer rate" when shipping your cattle. The rate would let you ship leftover animals at full-car rates. But we found that the advice was premature; we found that the ODT turned right around and announced that the suspension order against use of the rate would continue. We do not know just how long this rate will be suspended.

MEXICAN BEEF PRODUCTION LIMITED BY DRY CONDITION

Insufficient rain the past two years has resulted in poor range conditions in Mexico, according to a USDA report, with consequent reductions in cattle output of that country. Heavy demands, however, have encouraged beef producers to raise and market as many animals as possible and the expectation is that enough cattle will be produced in 1946 to meet domestic needs, with prices continuing relatively high. Mexico is one of the few countries that ship cattle to the United States, but even though quantity restrictions on imports have been removed in the emergency she has limited exports to 500,000 head a year to conserve domestic meat supply, and in 1944 actually shipped 290,000 head.

Does An Angus Live Longer?

The Aberdeen-Angus Journal at Webster City, Ia., is ready to back up with an "Oldest Cow" contest, its belief that Angus cattle average longer lives than other breeds. Cited is the case of a 17-year-old cow sold in the Condon-Battles dispersion of 1938, with her calf, for the sum of \$825.



For Catalogues Write Sale Manager
BRYSON VAN GUNDY
Sterling, Colo.

2ND ANNUAL QUARTER HORSE FOAL AND YEARLING AUCTION

Jan. 18, 10 A. M., Denver

30 HEAD—All out of BOTH AQHA registered sires and dams. All will have been shown in the National Western.

Rocky Mountain Quarter Horse Assn.

AUCTIONEER—HOWARD SHULTS

PUBLIC LAND QUESTION

(Continued from Page 8)

take them, nor are existing state agencies in position to handle transfers. On the question of livestock lands for returning servicemen, he pointed out that those left are not capable of providing a livelihood.

Norman Barlow, member of the American National's executive committee from Cora, Wyo., said his state was dedicated to the principle that all land and water belongs to the state, and that the state should determine their final disposition. Stockmen have a vested right in much of the land of Wyoming, as recognized by lease, he said; he proposed that these rights be recognized as the highest use to which the land can be put. He emphasized that the state of Wyoming is prepared, and is the proper agent, to receive public land.

Oda Mason, Laramie, Wyo., president of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, likewise favored return to private ownership through the state, rather than direct to the individual. The state, he said, if called upon could ready itself to handle the transfer. On the subject of land for returned servicemen, Mr. Mason asked, "why should they be penalized? All the good land is already deeded." He pointed out that the advent of private ownership will stabilize the important livestock industry. On the other hand, he said, the present policy of the Forest Service makes for instability. "Stockmen spent money in acquiring and improving hay land to go with their forest permits, but now the Forest Service proposes cuts of 10 to

60 per cent. We should have bought pasture lands instead."

John A. Reed of Kemmerer, Wyo., president of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association, favored private ownership of surface rights of grazing land "in order to stabilize the livestock industry of the West." He stated that in Wyoming, agricultural income constitutes the greatest source of income, and livestock the greatest proportion thereof. In his belief, grazing lands, by virtue of commensurate holdings required by the Forest Service before a permit might be issued for any number of livestock to graze, (including Taylor act lands) should constitute a "right" attached to said commensurate holdings, and should be subjected to tampering at the pleasure of administrative authorities only in the case of extreme abuses of use. In the final analysis, he declared, all these lands, so far as surface rights are concerned, should be on the tax rolls of the respective states if those states are to survive.

FARM AIDS

Ranchmen, farmers, contractors and men engaged in the sawmill and logging industries have a means in an improved mobile saw now on the market, of rapidly and economically removing timber and undesirable brush growths. The implement is an attachment designed for installation on tractors of almost any make or model and is said to be compact, speedy, readily maneuverable and of sturdy build. . . . A new type of brooder developed for poultry raisers features a rubber pad under 2 feet square which conducts electricity to keep baby chicks warm. Made conductive by the addition of chemical compounds, the rubber pad, product of a major rubber company, is said to consume less electricity than heaters constructed with coiled wire.

QUIT YOUR SKIDDING

WE'RE STILL DOING O.K. ON BRIDGES AND SHADED SECTIONS WHERE THE ICE HANGS ON



Remember . . . you may find icy surfaces on bridges or shaded sections of an otherwise clear road surface.

Not new but reconverted to full peacetime production is the manufacture of weed burners, heretofore given over to 75 per cent war activity. The tool, according to the manufacturer, will be available after fall harvest, for thawing frozen pipes, feed and for other uses.

A new hydraulic, easy-ride tractor seat smoothes out the rough spots, eases fatigue and makes the tractor a vehicle that can be driven longer with less strain.

The Westinghouse Electric Corporation has entered into the field of electric heating for homes. Models range from a portable unit to larger floor and wall models.

A new product which may be of interest to farmers is on the market at \$15. The electrical device, weighing 4½ pounds, is said to offer hum-free operation of 4, 5 or 6-tube, 1½ volt battery farm or portable radios from 105-125 volt, 50-60 cycle lines.

If there is a fire extinguisher safeguarding your cellar (and there should be on every ranch), be sure it is mounted so that you could get to it easily if the heating plant should start a fire.

What is a ranch house without a fireplace? Like a mince pie without the mincemeat, or a cake without the frosting. The fireplace is the family gathering place and the center of the home on the long winter evenings. Be sure it isn't the cause of the beloved homestead burning down. Always keep a screen in front of it so that sparks can't fly out and set fire to the woodwork. Never allow anyone to quicken the fire with kerosene. And don't keep the dried everlastings or bittersweet, picked last summer to brighten the room through the winter, on the mantel shelf directly over the open flames.

Railroads moved nearly 43,000,000 members of the armed forces in organized groups in the period from December, 1941, through August, 1945.

AS YE SOW . . .

There is something new in a very old occupation, according to a bee expert in Russia's Maikop apicultural research station. The scientist's contribution has taken the form of new raw materials added to the nectar bees obtain from flowers. He has proved successfully that honey takes on the flavor and vitamin-nutritive properties of fruits, for example. To go a step further, even medical preparations given to the bees in honey solution were found to yield honey with corresponding medical properties.

"PROVING" BEEF BULLS

A recent Bureau of Animal Husbandry experiment is said to afford a simple method of "proving" young beef bulls by their first calves in a plan similar to that used for proving dairy sires. Joseph Muir, Washington extension animal husbandman, explains that calves from two bulls of prize-winning lineage were placed on a corn and alfalfa ration, each calf being fed in individual self-feeders to check the amount of feed consumed, and each being allowed to eat all it wanted. The corn was valued at 60 cents a bushel and the alfalfa hay at \$20 a ton. The cost of the 400 pounds gain per calf of the one sire was \$31.62 less than for the other sire.

Only calves from purebred dams of the same breeds as the bulls were used; they were weaned and placed on test when they reached 500-pound weights. Neither the time spent in gaining that poundage nor the age of each calf when the test began was considered. Five of the first calves of each bull were used, since it was felt the use of fewer than five would not have given a true picture of each sire's worth.

ELECTRICITY ON FARMS

About 3,371,200 of the nation's farms do not have central station electric service. A USDA press service release shows that an estimated 44.7 per cent of all farms are now electrified, as compared with 11 per cent in 1935. That was when the Rural Electrification Administration program started. Thus, 55.3 per cent of the farms are without electric service. North Dakota, with 91.5 per cent, and South Dakota, with 88.5 per cent, lead in numbers of farms still unelectrified. Rhode Island, with only 2.3 per cent; New Jersey, with 5.9 per cent, and California, with 7.9, have the smallest percentages of farms not electrified.

CANADA'S "CATTALO"

National Provisioner reports that Canada, which has been experimenting for some time with a hybrid beef and buffalo animal called the "cattalo," is reported to be in position to start exporting some of the meat to the United Kingdom. The meat of the crossbreed, which is slightly larger than ordinary beef breeds, is said to compare favorably with beef, and the carcass breaks down very much like a beef carcass. Added advantage lies in the immunity of the animal from fluke, tse-tse and warble fly attacks; also it produces an excellent hide.

WHAT! NO TAIL LIGHT?

The National Safety Council suggests that pedestrians wear white when walking on the highway at night. Andrew L. Case, supervisor of driver education for the Arizona State Highway Department, has applied this technique to the problem of cattle accidents on the highway. He suggests that farmers continue to increase the number of white-faced cattle in their herds until all cattle have white faces.

The next progressive step, according to Case, is to teach them from calfhood to walk on the left side of the road facing approaching traffic!



"Why, Mr. Hazlett, you naughty boy, dancing me out to the terrace!"

SALT *Free Choice** SAVES PROTEIN



More Profit from Livestock Depends Upon Salt

Free Choice*



THE owner of a champion beef once remarked: "This calf has never been hungry in its life." This "hunger" applies to salt as well as to feed. Without sufficient salt cattle will not eat, digest, and assimilate their feed so as to make the most profitable gains.

Salt the Most Essential of All Minerals

Salt merits this importance because of its close relationship with protein, one of the basic substances of life. Protein is the chief ingredient of every cell. It forms by far the greater part of the muscles, internal organs, cartilages, and connective tissues. It is one of the chief elements in the nervous system. It plays even an important role in the bone structure. Obviously, the only source of protein for an animal is its feed. Only to the degree that it digests and assimilates this important ingredient is it able to produce profitable and economical gains in weight.

Salt has much to do with the efficient digestion of protein. It supplies the

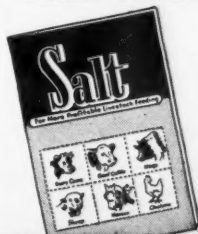
chloride for the hydrochloric acid without which proteins are not fully digested. Wasted proteins make high priced fertilizer. Salt also supplies sodium needed in bile for the digestion of fats and for stimulating the entire digestive system.

Salt Free Choice* Saves Protein

Of course, "feeding salt to livestock" is nothing new. Most farmers have been doing it for years. But few of them feed enough or feed it in the right way. Livestock differ in their need for salt. Some want more than others...they need more. For best results salt should be fed **FREE CHOICE***. In that way each animal can take all it wants and you know that your livestock are getting enough for health and thrift, for low feeding costs and most profitable use of the expensive proteins you feed. Because the need for salt is a continuous one, especially when animals are eating, establish salt stations around your farm, not only in the barnyard, but also in the pasture, in the fields, along the creek, wherever livestock gather and feed Morton's Salt Free Choice*.

Protein Makes Beef
On a dry matter basis, a growing steer is 49% protein. Salt helps digest protein, makes feed go farther.

FREE Valuable Book on Feeding Salt



It will pay you to have a copy of this authoritative 32-page book, the most complete ever published on feeding salt to all livestock. Explains the importance of salt in the animal diet... how best to feed salt... gives plans for making salt boxes for **FREE CHOICE*** feeding. Mail your request to Morton Salt Company, 310 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 4.

*Salt Free Choice means having salt before your animals all the time, so that they can eat as much or as little as they want.



MORTON SALT COMPANY
CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS

CONVENTION CALL

(Continued from Page 7)

tariffs and exposing agricultural producers to the threat of importations of similar products from countries where standards of living and wage schedules are far below those existing in this country. During the past year the reciprocal trade act was extended and the power granted the President to make further cuts in the tariff, the maximum permissible being 50 per cent of any rate in effect on Jan. 1, 1945. It must be remembered that many of the tariff rates prescribed in the existing tariff act have already been cut close to 50 per cent under the previous reciprocal trade authority. We do not share the belief that agricultural producers will get a fair break under this near approach to a free trade program even though there may be considerable increase in foreign trade. It would appear to be a step back toward the days of early tariff policy when agriculture was weak and when the program was to bring in free raw materials and then protect the manufactured products with high tariff rates. It seems extremely doubtful whether the demand for the export of agricultural products, and particularly of meats, will continue long beyond the give-away stage.

MEAT IMPORTS

Canada has considerably increased her export of beef to England during the war period. It is now indicated that when her current commitment to England which may carry through 1946 is fulfilled, Canadian surpluses will again look to the American market. Already, we understand, informal negotiations are under way looking to the point of an amendment to the existing reciprocal trade program with that country under which further cuts will be urged in the tariff on live cattle of the several different classes and possibly also dressed beef.

With regard to Argentina, it is also to be expected that once her political situation is cleared and her present commitment to England is filled she, too, will again seek to break down the sanitary embargo which keeps Argentine and other South American meat products out of this country. However, in this regard the experience of England during the war, with repeated outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease which it is now admitted come largely if not entirely from imports of Argentine dressed meats, will fortify the position of American livestock producers in demanding continuation of the present sanitary embargo.

WORLD FOOD SUPPLIES

A year ago there was much concern that when the war was over there would be tremendous surpluses of food and that there would be grave difficulty in maintaining reasonable market prices while they were being reduced. Administration observers were quoted as expressing

concern over ability to get Congress to appropriate sufficient money for fulfilling the obligations of the Steagall act which provided for government support of prices up to 90 per cent of parity on agricultural products, production of which were stepped up by request as a war emergency.

Today the situation seems to be completely reversed and the United States is being asked to assume the major role in providing for relief purposes both the food and the money to finance its purchase. There would therefore seem to be no immediate threat to meat producers as to surpluses, but it should be remembered that current supplies are still far above normal domestic consumption and that until production is brought down to a more nearly normal level the maintenance of a strong consumer demand in this country is essential to a continued satisfactory market.

CATTLE NUMBERS

Many times the question is asked as to what is a normal cattle population in this country, one that would produce adequate beef supplies without overstocking the market and bringing disastrous price reductions. The question is not easy to answer. It is anybody's guess, but at least it would seem that post-war demands for beef may reasonably be ex-

pected to average higher than the pre-war outlet. Even during the war, despite all the talk of scarcity, meat supplies were about equal to pre-war consumption. Consumers whose pre-war purchases were limited by income rather than by appetite ate more meat than ever before.

Last year total cattle slaughter exceeded any previous record by some 6,000,000 head. It is now indicated that this year's total slaughter will exceed that of last year and that there consequently will be a reduction of something like 2,000,000 head from the 81,760,000 head as of Jan. 1, 1945. Slightly more than half the total cattle in this country are of beef type.

With the prospect of good industrial activity once reconversion is completed and provided only that labor troubles do not constitute too big a hurdle, it would appear that the cattle industry has an opportunity to reduce its numbers during that period down to something under 75,000,000 head, which would put it on substantially safer ground.

SUPPORT PRICES

From time to time suggestions have been advanced by some cattle producers that the industry should seek a support price program. Careful study of this subject leaves no conclusion possible other than that support price programs of any kind are necessarily interwoven with increased government regulation and control of the commodities in question. During the war we escaped the imposition of ceiling prices on cattle (except for the over-all ceiling of \$18 per 100 pounds, Chicago), largely because it was found impossible to suggest a workable program. For the same reason any support price program would be equally impractical and the controls tied with it would be unwillingly accepted by the rank and file of cattle producers and feeders; unless we come to the point in this country where all agriculture is regimented and all prices guaranteed by the government, the cattle industry doubtless will wish to continue its present independent status.

PUBLIC LANDS

There will be a round-table discussion of all current public land problems dealing with lands controlled by the Forest Service, the Taylor grazing administration or any other governmental agency. This is a question which has become acute with the Forest Service policy of drastic cuts to be made in renewals of grazing permits. In connection with river valley authorities with legislation pending to include all the major river valleys of the country in control programs such as the TVA, the program will present a speaker competent to discuss this matter in detail and to show the restrictions placed upon agricultural producers under the proposals now pending before several congressional committees.

JUNIOR STOCKMEN

With the ending of the war and the return of many young people to the

FORTY MILES FROM TOWN



Some folks think it's mighty scary
'Way out here upon the prairie
All alone, with snow a-drifting down.
But to me it's snug and dandy—
Food and grub piled high and handy;
Rather be out here than in a town.

Plenty feed right in the stable.
Me? I set a bach'lor's table.
Hope some girl will wed me 'fore I'm
old.

Often riders passin' near me
Stop awhile as if to cheer me;
Think perhaps I'm lonesome in the cold.

Yes, they'll stop and chat a little
While the water in the kettle
Bubbles 'round until it's good and hot.
Make some coffee, fry some batter,
Listen to their ramblin' chatter;
Claimin' all is true—but maybe not.

Wouldn't live in town a minute;
Like this shack, and livin' in it.
Spring will be along before I know.
'Way out here, with coyotes callin',
Range stock 'long the fence a-bawlin',
This old cabin's home—so let it snow.

WALTER B. WEARE.

farms and ranches, it is earnestly hoped that there will be a good turnout of junior stockmen to participate in the discussions and considerations which will become progressively more important to them as they take their places in the industry.

It is urged that this first post-war meeting be attended by a good representative list from every section of the association territory, to take active part in deciding policies on the many important matters on the docket.

F. E. MOLLIN, Secretary.

FOREST SERVICE POLICY

(Continued from Page 7)

control the game numbers on its own property and keep them within bounds.

As we view it, the Forest Service is either guilty of bad management or is not dealing fairly with the livestock industry. Admittedly, there are extremists in the service who would like nothing better than to have all livestock excluded from the national forests. A start in this direction is shown by an announcement in the Colorado area of a desire to exclude all livestock grazing from something over 1,000,000 acres in the Pike National Forest. The favoritism toward almost any other use of the forests except livestock use is well shown by a study of the appropriations for the Forest Service. Scant attention is given to any items dealing with the improvement of the range. The big bulk of the money is spent on roads, trails, picnic grounds, etc., for the benefit of the tourist, the hunter and the recreationist in general.

For more than 40 years the Forest Service has been in control of these grazing lands. Its policy has become more and more arbitrary. Stockmen are told when to turn in and when to get out, where to salt, and so forth, and so forth. Oftentimes these orders are issued by inexperienced youngsters to stockmen who have known the country all their lifetimes. Further cuts are often made by shortening grazing seasons—sometimes at one end and sometimes at the other. There is little coordination between the Forest Service and the Taylor Grazing Service. A recent instance to illustrate this lack of, and need for, cooperation is that of a stockman who had a permit for 300 head on Taylor land but whose forest permit has been reduced about 20 per cent so that he can run only some 240 head on the forest. Now he is asking the Taylor Grazing Service to take care of the other 60 head during the time the remainder of the cattle are on the forest, which if granted would be to the ultimate disadvantage of the lands so used. In other words, this unit is out of balance by an arbitrary act of one service independent of the other.

At recent hearings at Casper, Wyo., and Grand Junction, Colo., called by a subcommittee of the Senate Public Lands

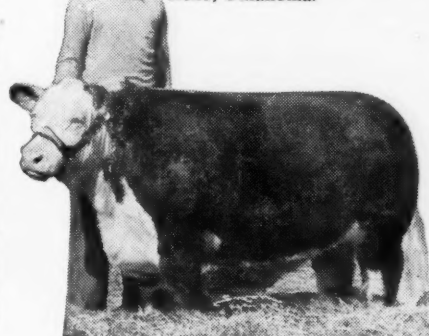
FUL-O-PEP FED CATTLE WIN 13^{OUT} OF 16 CHAMPIONSHIPS AT 1945 KANSAS CITY AMERICAN ROYAL



Grand Champion Carload of Fat Steers. Fed and shown by Jack Hoffman, Ida Grove, Iowa. This is the second straight year that the Hoffman family has won this honor, with a Ful-O-Pep fed carload.



Grand Champion Steer. Fed and shown by Milos Hrdy, El Reno, Oklahoma.



Reserve Champion Steer. Fed and shown by Jack Hoffman, Ida Grove, Iowa.

OTHER FUL-O-PEP FED CHAMPIONS WERE:

Grand Champion Steer, Open Class. Fed and shown by Milos Hrdy, El Reno, Okla.

Boys and Girls Classes

Champion Steer. Fed and shown by Jack Hoffman, Ida Grove, Iowa.

Hereford Breed Champion. Fed and shown by Jack Hoffman, Ida Grove, Iowa.

Shorthorn Breed Champion. Fed and shown by Raymond Luckinbill, Guthrie, Okla.

Vo-Ag Classes

Champion Steer. Fed and shown by Bob Woods, Verden, Oklahoma.

Reserve Champion Steer. Fed and shown by Charles Doane, Butler, Missouri.

State Group Champion of Five Steers. Won by Oklahoma.

Hereford Breed Champion. Fed and shown by Bob Woods, Verden, Oklahoma.

Shorthorn Breed Champion. Fed and shown by Glenn Millwee, Fort Cobb, Okla.

Angus Breed Champion. Fed and shown by Charles Doane, Butler, Missouri.

FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR, Ful-O-Pep fed cattle won the majority of the championships at the American Royal Fat Stock Show. Hoffman's champion carload was fed on a ration of oats, corn, Ful-O-Pep 32% Cattle Feed Concentrate and red clover hay. All the other steers listed on this page were fed on a ration that included at least 10% Ful-O-Pep Calf Starter or Ful-O-Pep 32% Cattle Feed Concentrate.

CERTAINLY THIS IS OUTSTANDING PROOF that vitamin-rich Ful-O-Pep Feeds have what it takes to build championship condition and finish. For more information, see your nearest Ful-O-Pep dealer, or write to

THE QUAKER OATS COMPANY, CHICAGO 4, ILL.



Committee for the purpose of taking testimony as to the proposal to increase fees on the Taylor grazing lands, interest was so keen on Forest Service matters that more time was spent on those than on the matter for which the meetings were called. It was the consensus of the many witnesses who spoke on this subject that the Forest Service policy of relying almost entirely upon cuts for protection to keep the ranges in a condition, which the service considers desirable, is unfair to the livestock industry. Cuts for protection should be the final method of control after full resort had been had to every possible effort to improve conditions by range reseeding, better management, control of game, etc. Some of the exasperated stockmen even suggested that perhaps the solution of the problem would be the turning over of the management of the forest lands to the Interior Department, thus centralizing in one agency the control of the bulk of government-owned grazing lands.

No useful purpose is accomplished so far as the protection of the range is concerned, merely to reduce livestock numbers and permit constant increases in game numbers. The livestock industry has done more to protect game than has any other group, but it believes the time has come to call a halt and for the Forest Service to stop making cuts for supposed protection—cuts which merely reduce livestock numbers and increase game numbers. In those many areas where game is the real problem, the industry believes that there should be no further cuts for protection until the Forest Service has exercised its responsibility in regard to the game. It believes that many cuts ordered for protection are not necessary and that if proper emphasis had been placed upon range management and range improvement instead of placing almost sole reliance upon cuts for protection, the situation today would be far better than it now is, from every standpoint. In fact, it would seem that the Forest Service has indicted itself if, after 40 years of management, it claims that there still must be cuts for protection, running up to 60 per cent or more. It is true that under the present system, with so little security as to tenure, it is difficult to maintain satisfactory conditions. Only security of use, flexibility of operation and a minimum of arbitrary interference will permit the livestock industry to make the fullest practical use of the forest grazing lands and guarantee their maintenance in proper, useful condition.

DEFT AND DUMB

To hide my light under a bushel, I feel
A need to be quite nimble;
For the very small light I have to
conceal
Fits loosely under a thimble.

—HOWARD HAYNES.

THE MONTH'S MARKETS . . .

By H. W. French

THE PEAK OF THE MOVEMENT OF range cattle is behind us, although there are many grassers still to move from Colorado and Wyoming where shipping started much later than last year. The movement from the Northwest was disappointing, while liberal supplies were marketed from the Southwest and the intermountain area. Many of these cattle did not hit the public markets. Feeder buyers operated extensively in the producing areas, and many West Coast buyers bought both feeder and slaughter cattle direct from the producers.



Mr. French

Price fluctuations on grass cows were frequent and severe at times, yet producers received more for their cows than was generally predicted before the season began. This was true of other range offerings, and all in all it was a very profitable season. Margins on grain-fed cattle were not very satisfactory in late months, due to high first cost.

There was a surprisingly liberal supply of grain-fed steers recently at Chicago and some of the Missouri River markets, but elsewhere the run was light to moderate. During the week of Nov. 10, grain-feds were in the largest supply since March. Despite a comparatively wide spread in prices for fed steers, more cattle sold at or near the ceiling during the past month than ever before. In fact, a record number sold at the top at many markets, indicating the urgent need for long-fed cattle.

Shorter Feeding

Some feedlot operators marketed cattle which they had been feeding only 60 to 90 days, and others who usually feed 180 days or longer moved their cattle to market after only 120 days. Marketing with less finish may be the practice for the next few months, but this may result in too many cattle of the same type.

Common cattle as well as choice grades have not fluctuated as much as others recently, but some of the middle grades have been jumping around without warning. In many instances yields and grading have been disappointing, and buyers admit that many fed cattle showed satisfactory outside covering but did not show the inside fat and desired marbling.

As an indication of prevailing prices for beef steers, it might be well to report that the average cost of such offerings at Chicago during the week of Oct. 27 set a new record in recent years of

\$17.01, standing 88 cents higher than the corresponding week last year.

6,000 at Ceiling

Although many cattle are selling at the ceiling—6,000 head in one week at Chicago doing this—there is certain to be a widening of the price range from now on. This will result in sharp fluctuations on short-feds which are sure to be abundant after the turn in 1946. Many Corn Belt farmers have been buying cattle to utilize soft corn, and these cattle will not be kept long enough to become finished enough to attract urgent competition. In the meantime, both common and choice grades show a general trend and have not been bouncing around much, with price changes more gradual than on in-betweens.

The percentage of common and medium beef steers remains small, while choice and prime are making up a larger part of the run than is normally the case. During the week ending Nov. 3, choice and prime steers at Chicago made up 53.5 per cent of those sold out of first hand—almost three times as great as a year ago. On the other hand, good grade was placed at 35.5 per cent against 52.2 per cent a year ago. Average price of choice and prime stood at \$17.84, good at \$16.48, medium at \$13.78 and common at \$11.01, or a composite average for all grades of \$16.95 as against \$15.87 the corresponding week last year.

Quite frequently it has been a two-way market for slaughter cattle, and even feeders have not shown a uniform trend, the good or the good and choice offerings holding firm and in some instances uncovering new highs, but the tendency has been downward on medium kinds. The irregularity in the market has made some members of the trade skeptical about prices in the near future.

Packers Comply With Cows

Cows have been used as a leverage to keep drove costs within compliance because the need for better grade beef has made it impossible for packers to keep much below the ceiling if they were to fill their requirements for choice grade animals. Plenty of trouble has been encountered on the West Coast, especially around Los Angeles and San Francisco, in moving commercial cow beef, but the situation has clarified to some extent. Cow beef also has been rather plentiful on the New York market, although it was absorbed without much difficulty.

Mid-November prices for beef steers and heifers at Chicago were largely strong to 25 cents higher than a month earlier, although some of the grassy and short-fed kinds displayed some weakness. Good beef cows were chiefly strong to 25 cents higher in the face of around 50 to 75 cents decline on medium offerings and a smaller decline on canners and cutters. Good bulls were mainly 50 to 75 cents up, with lower grades little changed. Most vealers showed considerable strength, but heavy calves were only about steady, although there was a mean close on big weights.

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There was a slight increase in the slaughter of cattle under federal inspection during October but a decrease in the number of calves slaughtered. The slaughter of hogs was little more than half as large as a year ago, while the decrease in sheep slaughter was minor. Slaughter of cattle for the 10 months totaled 12,012,785, up approximately 663,000 from a year ago, while the calf slaughter at 5,689,787 was down about 537,000. Hog slaughter totaled 31,073,084, standing over 27,000,000 below a year ago, while sheep at 17,642,206 was off only 287,000.

Disappearance of corn the past season was the third largest on record. Disappearance of grain amounted to 2,816,000,000 bushels compared with 2,878,000,000 bushels during 1943-44 and 2,100,000,000 bushels for the 10-year average. Stocks of corn on Oct. 1, 1945, amounted to 328,600,000 bushels against 234,900,000 bushels a year earlier and 388,200,000 bushels two years ago. The 1945-46 supply of corn as grain is estimated at 3,007,000,000 bushels.

Feed Plentiful

During the period October, 1944, through September, 1945, 96,590,000 tons of corn, oats, barley and grain sorghums were used for feed against 99,190,000 tons the previous season and 72,907,000 tons for the 10-year, 1934-43, average. Feed grain supplies for the current feeding season beginning with October are estimated at 116,100,000 tons compared with 115,700,000 tons for 1944-45.

Good and choice grain-fed steers in the past month at Chicago bulked at \$16.50 to \$18, and both heifers and mixed yearlings were included at the ceiling of \$18. Quite frequently it was a hit and miss market on anything from \$16.75 down. The turkey crop is up 22 per cent from last year, and turkey consumption may have some influence on the demand for beef through the holiday season.

Short-fed steers and heifers often were taken at \$13.50 to \$15.50, a few of the fleshier kinds on the high spot selling at \$15.75 to \$16.25. Western grass-fat heifers reached \$15.25, and best grass-fat steers went at \$16 to \$16.50. Other medium to good grass heifers sold at \$12 to \$15 and common below \$11.

Heiferish grain-fed native cows sold up to \$15.50 and straight rangers went as high as \$15, with a fair quota at \$14 to \$14.75. Many other westerns cleared at \$12.50 to \$13.50, and there were many common to good natives at \$9.50 to \$12.50. Heavy beef bulls reached \$14.25, although most sales were downward from \$13.75, while heavy sausage bulls frequently made \$13 to \$13.25 and common to medium westerns sold at \$9.50 to \$12. The big end of the choice vealers sold at \$15.50, while on the low spot late not many heavy slaughter calves passed \$12.

More Cattle on Feed

More cattle will be fed during the coming winter in the 11 Corn Belt states and in areas outside the Corn Belt. This was indicated by a report released by the

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Department of Agriculture. Stocker and feeder shipments into eight Corn Belt states in October were the largest on record for that month at 669,000 as compared with 525,000 in October of 1944. The previous October record of 610,000 was established in 1940. The three leading feeding states, consisting of Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska, all had record numbers for October.

A reduction in feeding in Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona is expected. This is because of reduced production of cottonseed, bundle feeds and grain sorghums and the late winter wheat pastures. In all other western states, as many, or more, cattle will be fed. Increased supplies of sugar-beet feeds and barley, and considerable acreage of soft corn will encourage increased cattle feeding in Colorado. In-shipments of cattle into California from August to October assure increased feeding in that state. Intrastate movement of feeder cattle from producing to feeding areas in South Dakota and Nebraska has been heavy.

More Fed Cattle To Be Marketed

A larger proportion of the cattle being fed will be marketed during winter months than is normally the case because many of the cattle now on feed were purchased to salvage frost-damaged corn. Records show that more calves went into feedlots, although this movement was somewhat delayed in some areas. The increase of shipments direct from the producer to the feeder was greater than the increase purchased at public stockyards.

Feeder demand at Denver in recent weeks was largely from Corn Belt men, and despite rising costs and liberal available supplies there seemed to be no limit to the outlet, probably because most offerings were of a very attractive variety. Northern Colorado demand should develop rapidly with the end of sugar beet harvesting, but it has been reported that many operators will buy less freely in the weeks ahead because they filled many of their needs in producing areas and have been taking delivery the last few weeks.

Since mid-October prices for choice replacement steers at Chicago looked mostly 25 to 50 cents higher than a month earlier, but the medium kinds have been obtainable at steady rates in most instances. No material change was noted in prices for she stock on country account. There was some upturn in prices for feeder calves. Volume of buying the remainder of the year is expected to lessen, although for another month many good and choice offerings will be available.

Choice feeder steers at Chicago sold at \$14.50 to \$14.75 and some yearlings scored \$15, while lightweight youngsters as well as calves reached \$15.50. Any number of steers went out at \$13 to \$14.25, although common and medium usually went at \$10.50 to \$12.50. Outstanding calves were reported as high

as \$16, a price also paid at Denver and surpassed at some of the "River" points. Many good to choice feeder heifers around the circuit have been selling at \$12 to \$13.25, while good cows, some of them to be placed on beet tops and wheat pastures, frequently cleared at \$9.50 to \$10.50, some reaching \$11. Common and medium aged cows, some of them horned, landed at \$7.50 to \$9.

Hog Receipts Increase

Hog receipts are on the increase, and recent supplies were the largest of the season, yet offerings still remained far below a year ago. Weights continue heavy but they are dropping off to some extent, although remaining much above a year ago. Sows average about 15 per cent of the receipts—somewhat less than a month ago. No changes were reported in prices as nearly everything sold at the ceiling. It will take much heavier supplies to bring about buying below ceiling levels. Barrows and gilts sold largely at \$14.85 and sows mainly at \$14.10 at Chicago.

Native lambs and western ewes predominated at Chicago, and fluctuations in slaughter lamb prices resulted in no material change, mid-November sales holding steady with a month earlier. Fat ewes sold on a uniform basis throughout the month and prices were steady. The lamb market was sensitive, working stronger when shippers were operating freely and displaying weakness when outside buying fell off.

Other markets had an expanded supply from Minnesota and Dakota, while range offerings at Denver and Missouri River markets slackened seasonally. Aggregate receipts were smaller, but at some markets the percentage of feeder lambs was large. It will be another month and perhaps longer before feedlot lambs from Colorado and Nebraska will move in any volume.

Most of the good to choice slaughter lambs at Chicago sold at \$14 to \$14.75, although at times \$14.50 took the best. Some mixed medium to choice rangers sold straight at \$13.75 to \$13.85, while common natives, buck lambs included, went at \$10 to \$11.50. Good to choice fed

clippers with No. 1 pelts cleared at \$13.15 to \$14, strictly choice topping at \$14.15. Good to choice yearling wethers went at \$12 to \$12.75, medium Montanas selling at \$10.50. Most ewes went at \$5 to \$6.50, some cull and common selling at \$4 to \$4.60.

More Lambs in Corn Belt

There will be a rather sharp reduction in the number of lambs to be finished on wheat pastures, although about as many lambs will be in feedlots as in the previous season. The number of lambs in the western states may be smaller, but the number in the Corn Belt will be larger. There was a 16 per cent increase in the in-movement into eight Corn Belt states during October. All five eastern Corn Belt states except Michigan showed an increase. Iowa reported a slight decrease but numbers were up in Minnesota and Nebraska.

Western Kansas wheatfields are holding 25 to 35 per cent fewer lambs than last year, and in Oklahoma and the Panhandle area of Texas wheat pasture finishing is expected to be reduced considerably. Colorado may show 10 to 15 per cent reduction, with the most reduction in the northern section and some increase in the Arkansas Valley. Changes in other western states are minor except in California where there is considerable expansion.

Feeder lamb demand has been comparatively broad all month, although supplies at Chicago were limited as against a good run of suitable lambs at Denver and Omaha. Firmness featured the market and in some instances new high levels were reached, but there was a sharp reaction about mid-November, although at times strictly good and choice feeder lambs were less numerous than earlier in the month.

Good and choice feeder lambs at Chicago scored \$15 to \$15.50, some 86-pound Washingtons included at the top figure. Some also reached \$15.50 at Denver, and \$15.75 was paid at Omaha for the highest November price in 20 years. Some choice 76-pound Idahos sold as high as \$15.60 at that point. A few loads of feeder yearlings sold in Chicago at \$10.50 to \$10.75, while solid mouth western ewes went for breeding purposes at \$7 to \$7.75.

WOOL By H. W. F.

Domestic wool trading at Boston has been practically at a standstill in recent weeks. Buyers waited for action on bids submitted on lots of wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation. Allocations which were to be made by Nov. 13 were delayed, and no bids had been accepted or rejected by Nov. 15. It was indicated that replies to bids would be forthcoming within a few days. Approximately 13,200,000 pounds of domestic wools had bids, and of this amount about half consisted of off wools.

Texas handlers bid on 2,500,000 pounds of off wools for scouring and resale to woolen mills. Most other bids were on



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fine territory wools and averaged around \$1, clean basis. These wools had been appraised at clean prices of \$1.19 to \$1.21. The CCC had expected bids on 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 pounds. Although there were no changes in the spot wool supply situation at Boston, some of those who had placed bids on domestic wools felt they would not be compelled to take delivery because of the delay in notification.

Boston wool handlers at a meeting voted against the disposal of domestic wools by auction until such time as the CCC was out of the wool market, and wished to dispose of the remaining stocks. A telegram was sent to the Department of Agriculture in Washington stating that, if CCC would place prices on its holdings of domestic wools approximately on a par with the British wool control prices, they felt they could sell most of the domestic wools.

Australian wools were more active. Allocations on purchases made since Aug. 1 were heavier and, along with an improvement in shipping, importers had more wool to offer. Deliveries on recent sales will be made during January and February. Scoured Cape fine eight to 11 months wools to woolen manufacturers was reported at close to ceiling prices. Recent heavy arrivals of Argentina wools purchased over a year ago and stored in Buenos Aires awaiting shipping permits unsettled prices at Boston.

Additional cables were received on new prices of United Kingdom wools. Reductions on fine Australian wools range from 2 to 6 per cent; New Zealand up to 5 per cent on grades finer than 50s, and 10 per cent and upwards on grades 50s and coarser. Although no definite prices have been received on scoured wools, indications are that reductions on these will be considerable.

Domestic wool appraisals through Nov. 9 totaled 294,912,854 pounds against 324,467,539 pounds at the same date in 1944.

National Western Plans Rolling Along In High

With the issuance of premium lists for the National Western Stock Show, to be held in Denver Jan. 11-19, 1946, Manager John T. Caine III reports his offices are being flooded with requests. Many exhibitors already have their entries in, and he declares "everything will be full again."

In connection with the Quarter-Horse and Palomino showings this year, entries have been received from a dozen states; those attending the show will have an opportunity to see and buy the best horses of the two kinds to be found anywhere in the West.

In anticipation of this first National Western event to be held post-war, considerable repairing and remodeling work has been done on the grounds and buildings at the site of the show.

December, 1945

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ILLINOIS OPINIONS AS TO CATTLE TREND

By DAVID I. DAY



OUT OF CHICAGO IN LATE OCTOBER, we had the pleasure of checking on the cattle situation along U. S. 30 over to Clinton. The day following we traveled down to Moline along the Mississippi River.

Although feeder cattle are selling higher than a year ago, a great many farmers evidently felt they could make a profit on them. In some communities, the number on feed was apparently just about normal. In other communities, the price of feeder calves had some of the regular cattle-feeding farmers scared. In those neighborhoods, the number on feed was estimated variously at 90 per cent down to 65 per cent of normal numbers.

On the way over from Chicago to Moline I stopped at only two farms of consequence. One was the 300-acre grain and stock farm of Frank G. Yates who fed out in 1944 nearly 300 head of western whiteface calves. He has a small home herd of Colorado heifers crossed with a big polled Shorthorn sire so that hereafter he will produce a part of his own calves. He thinks money can be made with prices as of now "if the farmer is a smart buyer, knowing his cattle thoroughly."

He said if a man buying cheap cattle made certain the price was similarly cheap, matters would work out satisfactorily. The trouble was coming on cases where average prices had been paid for cattle of sub-average quality. He is feeding out a little fewer cattle but he said he felt forced to buy some cheap calves to handle the poor hay he had. He looks for considerable soft corn, too, and has up a considerable amount of corn silage.

Mr. Yates is buying this fall only lighter cattle. So many in Illinois and elsewhere had purchased heavies for short feeding, he said, that the prices on heavy steers and heifers were out of line. Augmented also is this condition by the purchase of thousands of head of heavies by the packers for immediate slaughter. Said Mr. Yates: "The fact is that light cattle always make gains at less cost and can be handled in so many different ways, making them more suited to present conditions."

At the farm of George Brenton, I asked him how he felt as to light cattle being better and safer purchases this fall than heavy cattle. He was inclined to agree. Said he: "My son bought some heavy steers and I think he will come out very well. He is in position to feed liberally on grain and soybean meal, fine alfalfa hay and corn silage. My advice to anyone with costly heavy cattle is to really push them along to market."

Last spring and early summer a great many Corn Belt feeders were betting a little on dry weather in the West—to force ranchers to unload. This has not panned out, evidently. There appears to have been plenty of pasture and the ranches as a rule are in pretty good position as to winter feed. I talked to a central Illinois farmer and cattle feeder in Chicago. He said he made a little trip out in Wyoming and Colorado and decided then that the ranchers were in position to call trumps in this waiting game.

Everywhere, farmers ask about the anticipated flood of both feeder and slaughter cattle off western grass. They can only be reminded that it hasn't showed up and is not very likely to in bulk enough to force prices much lower than they are today. Another thing has the farm folk guessing—the prices on cattle are stronger this fall at all markets, more keenness of demand, more shipments hitting ceiling prices in Chicago and all the other central markets.

One of the letters received at Moline mentioned the heavy shipments of cattle arriving on the Chicago market. It was my friend's impression after several years there that no more cattle had ever arrived there in October, at least not for many years. The demand for beef, the number of shipments hitting ceiling price, the approach of winter evidently were among the factors inducing farmers to look upon cattle feeding somewhat more favorably.

Said this letter: "The farmers are weakening a bit on their demand for a removal of cattle ceiling prices. Of course, many have favored ceiling prices all the time. Now, others are saying we better safeguard the future with sensible ceilings. I believe most of these folks would like to see a little more flexibility in the management of ceiling and floor price controls."

Not As Expected

On my trip around over northern Illinois, it was noticeable that farmers are not so extreme either for or against price controls. The truth is our first months of peace have been different from what farmers expected. They did not dream that nation-wide strikes would be called long before most of the boys in the armed forces got home. They thought that industrial reconversion would be swifter. So now, when they witness many returned soldiers re-enlisting, they don't know what to make of this rather unprecedented situation.

So a great many are not so sure they want the government to take its nose out of private business. At least, they

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

are not looking for any sudden jolts in our present economy.

I spent the night of Nov. 1 with the Howard G. Henning family some six miles off U. S. 150. Mr. Henning has two sons in the army who will probably be getting home this winter. So he is filling up the barns with native and western calves, getting all lined out for the lads to take over much of the work and responsibility. He is even starting a little herd of Shorthorns at the request of one of the sons who would like to get into the purebred cattle business some day. The boy said he had planning time and buddies interested in beef cattle to plan with him in the far-off Philippines.

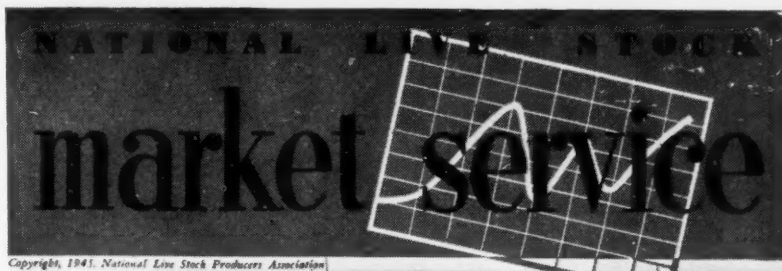
"I am trying to keep the boys informed in detail," explained the father rather ruefully. "I want them to bear in mind that labor and management are at war here, that our car and truck are about worn out, that seed is scarce, machinery scarce, repairs scarce—that we can't even get an electrical refrigerator or haven't so far. All in all, it doesn't look much like what I thought the boys were fighting for."

A few weeks before my visit, Mr. Henning had sold whiteface steers at \$17.60. He carried them through last winter on alfalfa hay and ear corn. He pastured them on alfalfa and bluegrass, with a couple of weeks on oats pasture last spring. He fattened the cattle in the barnlot using alfalfa hay and some corn silage. His steer fattening feed was locally made of 800 pounds ground shelled yellow corn, 700 pounds coarsely ground barley, 200 pounds coarsely ground oats, 100 pounds soybean oil meal and 200 pounds blackstrap molasses. He said he kept steamed bonemeal and salt before the cattle all the time, watering the animals three times daily.

"If the boys come home and stick, I hope to make this a real livestock farm," Mr. Henning announced. "If they make other arrangements, I will have some land to sell. My plan in that event is to keep busy on 40 acres and let younger fellows worry about feeding the world. Sometimes I don't think the world is worth feeding anyhow."

COUNT SHOWS DROP IN FARM POPULATIONS

Farm populations have sustained a net loss of about 2,900,000, according to the recent report of the Census Bureau and the BAE. Although about 5,400,000 civilians moved from farms to cities and other non-farm areas between the end of 1941 and March, 1945, this total was partially offset by a shift to farms from non-farm areas—a shift of about 2,500,000 persons. In the 1941-45 period mentioned, approximately 1,500,000 people were lost by the farms to the armed services. The estimate is, with inductions and enlistments taken into account, that adult male population figures of the nation's farms fell off about 2,500,000.



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RESEEDING JOB ENDING

At Ogden, Utah, Charles DeMoisey, assistant regional forester in range management, reports near completion of the program for reseeding under-vegetated range lands in eight forests of the Intermountain region, under a \$60,000 Congressional appropriation.

Crested wheatgrass and smooth brome grass have been mainly used, being found most effective in restoring watershed cover and improving quality and quantity of forage for grazing purposes. Other grasses, planted in smaller degree, are orchard grass, slender wheat, tall oat, timothy and bulbous blue grass.

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5. The use of hired labor for different kinds of work.
6. A memorandum of weather conditions, the dates of the more important farm and ranch operations, etc.

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REPORT ON ALASKA

A five-man congressional subcommittee which recently made a 38-day inspection tour of Alaska, states that it "could not now conscientiously recommend" to returning veterans that they go to Alaska to homestead. Declaring that homesteading opportunities there are "limited" and not so attractive as had been indicated in some reports, the men suggested that careful personal investigations should precede any definite move to check not only on opportunities offered but also on the conditions under which it would be necessary to live.



"Herefords—the Beef Breed Supreme" is a booklet just issued by the American Hereford Association at Kansas City, Mo. Illustrated, it explores every phase of the Hereford raising industry. Free, on request to the association at 300 West 11th St., Kansas City 6.

The Horse and Mule Association of America, Inc., 407 S. Dearborn St., Chicago 5, Ill., has published Book No. 286, "Jacks, Jennets and Mules." Price, 25 cents.

Based on studies conducted at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, an article on the Nutritive Value of Corn Cobs in Beef Cattle Rations appears in the November issue of the quarterly Journal of Animal Science, published by the American Society of Animal Production. Of particular interest is the statement, contained in the summary, that cobs for cattle are 64 per cent as valuable as the grain itself for energy or fattening purposes.

Two bulletins of interest emanate from the extension service at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. They are "Home Made Post Hole Diggers" by Lester F. Larsen and "DDT as a Household Insecticide" by Dr. Martin H. Muma. Local county agricultural agents' offices have them—or you may write to Nebraska direct.

Obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., (at 25 cents each) is Technical Bulletin No. 904. It covers the topic, Fattening Good and Common Grade Steers in Southeastern Coastal Plains.

The National Live Stock and Meat Board announces publication of a new post-war meat recipe book for national distribution through many channels. It is called "My Best Meat Recipes," and a complimentary copy may be secured from the board, 407 So. Dearborn St., Chicago 5, Ill.

Available free upon request to the Extension Service, Kansas State College, Manhattan, is a 32-page book on "Labor Saving Short-cuts." It contains 180 pictures of home and farm labor-saving devices and includes helpful suggestions.

In a new book, "USDA, Manager of American Agriculture," Author Ferdie Deering indicates that if industrial sections are to have healthy markets for their products in coming years, rural America must make out reasonably well within the framework of our economy. To insure the most intelligent action possible, he urges a complete reorgani-

zation of the Department of Agriculture that will streamline it for the efficiency that has long been thought desirable. University of Oklahoma Press at Norman, Okla., is the publisher. (\$2.50.)

J. I. Case Company, Racine, Wis., has just published a new illustrated booklet, "Build a Pond." It tells how to set up a small water supply easily and inexpensively.

"Future Farmers of America in Action" is the title of a new well illustrated book issued by FFA groups in cooperation with the U. S. Office of Education. The book explains ways in which FFA chapters are organized and tells about achievements of members.

SIMPLE TREATMENTS PROLONG LIFE OF FENCE POSTS

With the lifting of wartime restrictions on chemicals it is now possible to obtain several newly developed preservatives for fence posts, according to Herbert J. Freece, extension forester for the University of Nevada.

The newest and most promising of these contains pentachlorophenols which can be used for treating posts inexpensively and with little equipment.

These preservatives are obtained in concentrated form under various trade names and are mixed with any light penetrating oil, such as diesel or stove oil, in a tank or drum in which the posts are to be treated. Cold-soaking in this solution for a period of from 24 to 48 hours is all that is necessary.

The life of the post is thus prolonged by at least three times that of untreated posts. Very favorable results have been obtained with both aspen and cottonwood posts which are ordinarily very short-lived.

Costs of treatment per post will average approximately 5 cents.

MEAT LECTURE PROGRAM

The National Live Stock and Meat Board, working with the offices of the quartermaster general, the surgeon general and the Veterans' Administration, has just concluded a series of meat lecture-demonstrations, attended by personnel from over 100 army hospitals, coast to coast. Purpose of the course has been the instruction of such personnel in the proper handling, preparation and serving of the all-important food, meat, so it can be utilized to best possible advantage in building appetizing and nutritious meals for hospitalized, and other servicemen.

In speaking of the over-all meat program, General Manager R. C. Pollock of the board declared, "One military authority has stated that, as a result of this activity, our American soldiers and sailors have been better fed. This alone would seem to justify the time and the effort expended."

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Sale Summaries

The 49 bulls and 7 females sold in the Northern Colorado Hereford Breeders Show and Sale, Nov. 12 at Greeley, brought a total of \$16,270. The summer yearling bull BB Royal 8th, owned by Beauprez Bros. of Broomfield, nosed out 11 other animals to take first place. Hiwan Ranch's entry from Evergreen, Prince A. 53rd, took secondary honors. BB Lorena's 1st, also shown by Beauprez Bros., won for the junior yearling class in a field of 12, and then took the championship. This animal had a slight edge over the Colorado A & M College-owned favorite, CSD Domineta's R. PR., winner of the senior calf class which subsequently brought the sale's highest price of \$1,500 when sold to A. L. and D. H. Smith of Meeker, Colo. The champion brought \$1,250; the buyer, Warren Livestock Co. of Cheyenne, Wyo.

A total of 127 head (114 bulls, 13 females) changed hands at the second annual Western Slope Hereford Association show and sale Nov. 11-12 at Grand Junction, with total intake amounting to \$40,483. The show champion was a May yearling owned by Hartner & Schultz of Edwards, Colo. Al Herndon of Norwood bought it for \$600; and Forrest Albertson of Burns paid the same price for the reserve champion, sent to the sale by DeBerard & Reagor of Toponas. Top-of-the-sale price went for a bull which placed 11th in class, an animal of WHR and DeBerard breeding shown by Thomas C. Currier of Collbran. Claude Rees of Rio Blanco purchased him for \$750. Both the first and second place showings for females went to Charlie Redd of LaSal, Utah. The champion was bought for \$440 by Norell Herefords of Collbran; the reserve champion, by DeBerard & Reagor at \$460.

A sale average of \$336 was set on 58 head sold in the Nov. 14 Hereford sale of the San Luis Valley Cattlemen's Association. Total receipts for the 48 registered bulls in the event came to \$17,540; for 10 females, \$1,948. The top bull, Star Dust 61st, was purchased for \$930 by Geo. F. Dominick III of Villa Grove from Firm Bros. of La Veta. Next-high price also bought a Firm Bros. bull, when A. L. Decker of Pagosa Springs paid \$800 for Prince Pioneer 18th.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS SALES

In sales held recently at Madera, Calif., Pendleton, Ore., Twin Falls, Idaho, Dickenson, N. D., and Denver, Colo., a total of 350 head of Aberdeen-Angus sold for an average of \$349. Additionally, Tulsa, Okla., and Kansas City sales have brought in averages of \$489 and \$354, respectively. Top price was knocked down at Denver for a \$1,625 bull, while a female at Pendleton brought \$1,150. Reports like these are pointed to by the Aberdeen-Angus association as an indication that the breed is "moving west."

Deaths

John Letham, long a staff member of the Hereford Journal, passed on at Elkhorn, Wis., Oct. 18. Mr. Letham, who was 86, had suffered ill health for several years. . . . Frank J. Abbott died in Worland, Wyo., recently at the age of 88. A native of Michigan, he had gone to Wyoming in 1879 to work as a cowboy. . . . On Oct. 16 Mrs. Kate Evans died at her El Paso (Tex.) home. The eight sons and a daughter surviving Mrs. Evans, who was 84, are all associated with the cattle industry.

Paul A. Dett, 59, died Oct. 25 at Kansas City, Mo., after a brief illness. Engaged in the packing business for the past 35 years, Mr. Dett was at the time of his death the manager of Armour & Company's Kansas City plant.

John G. Edwards, retired rancher at one time known as the largest sheep operator in the United States, was taken by death on Oct. 27 at his home in Portland, Ore. Mr. Edwards, born in Wales in 1855, was one of the first to import and improve the Rambouillet strain in America.

The death of Frank W. Cowlshaw, Nogales, Ariz., is reported in Arizona Cattle Growers News Letter. He operated the Wilshaw ranch. He was a member of the Arizona cattle association. . . . Another member of the Arizona association, H. W. Heap, St. John, passed away on Oct. 16.

Carl Rees, pioneer rancher passed away on Nov. 9 at his ranch near Chino Valley, Ariz. Mr. Rees was one of the early presidents of the progressive Yavapai Cattle Growers association and a director of the Arizona Cattle Growers Association.

After prolonged illness, Harry Hopley, 64-year-old veteran cattle feeder of Atlantic, Ia., passed away at Omaha where he had made his home in the past few years since dispersing his Shorthorn herd. Mr. Hopley was a brother of Wayland Hopley, Angus breeder of Atlantic, who was one of the speakers at last January's American National convention.

Fred Andrew of Echo, Ore., long connected with the industry, died last month at the age of 84.

North Dakota stock growing circles lost a notable member, with the death of Morgan D. Graham on Nov. 14 at Minot. Mr. Graham was a director of the stockmen's association of his state.

M. M. Cushing, Saratoga, Wyo., many years a member of the American National and a former executive committeeman, passed away last month.

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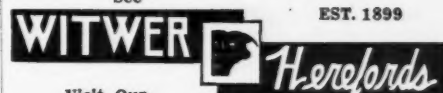


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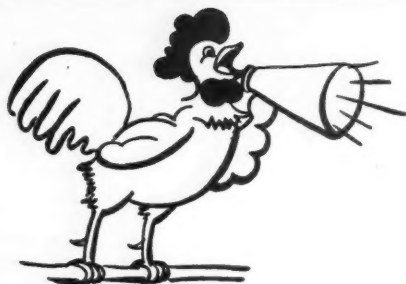


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Horses

Horse (breeding, schooling, training, sports), \$5; Thoroughbred (horse) Record, weekly, \$4; Rider & Driver (horses, sport, pleasure), \$3.50; Spokesman and Harness World (3 yrs., \$2), \$1; Eastern Breeder, \$2; Ranchman, \$1.

Bees

Gleanings in Bee Culture, \$1; Beekeeper's Item, \$1; American Bee Journal, \$1.

Farming

The Country Book, \$1; Co-operative (farmers') Digest, \$2; Farmers Digest, \$2.

Pigeons

American Pigeon Journal (squab fancy), \$1.50.

Poultry

Cackle & Crow, \$1; Pacific Poultryman, 50c; Progressive Poultryman, m., \$1; Poultry Billboard, m., \$1.

Rabbits

Small Stock (rabbits, covies, exclusively), \$1; American Rabbit Journal, \$1; Rabbit News, m., \$1; California Rabbit, m., \$1; Intern. Comm. Rabbit Journal, m., \$1.

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Better Fruit, \$1; Eastern Fruit Grower, \$1.

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The Soybean Digest, \$1.50; New Agriculture (sugar beets only), \$2; Small Commercial Animals and Fowls, 50c; Modern Game Breeding (pheasants), \$3; Canary Journal, \$2; Canary World, \$1.25; Dairy Farmer's Digest, \$1.

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¶ The PRODUCER apologizes for inadvertently mislabeling a picture in the 'Round the Range' column last month. The face on Page 42 in that issue was not that of Dr. Arthur W. Miller, but of Dr. Bennett T. Simms, who succeeded upon the retirement of Dr. Miller to the post of chief, Bureau of Animal Industry.

¶ Jack Turner, who owns the Silver Crest Hereford Ranch at Fort Worth, Tex., is the new secretary of the American Hereford Association, succeeding Bernard M. Anderson, whose death this column recorded in last month's issue.

¶ At the recent Northwest Angus Breeders' show and sale in Oregon, Jim Guttridge of Lake Grove, Calif., served as manager; Prof. Hickman of Moscow, Idaho, was the judge; Col. E. O. Walter of Filer, Idaho, auctioned the cattle.

¶ Recently, a "traffic" violator was hailed before the desk officer at the Helena, Mont., police station. The officer was a bit puzzled as he considered the charge to be levied. Finally, he wrote on the blotter, "Drunken Riding." The culprit, Charles Donovan, Montana cowboy, had prodded his mount up the police station driveway and, via the lawn, drawn up at the chief's door.

¶ Poplar Bluff, Mo., livestock dealer, Jeff Woods, tenderly fondled a sore jaw in a hospital as he pondered suspiciously whether the mule that kicked him had undertaken to cooperate with his former owner—an undertaker!

¶ The Northwestern Railroad maps out each fall the cattle trails leading from eastern Montana to the railroad's Belle Fourche terminal. Cattlemen still trail herds, in this area of poor roads and no railroads at all, on the railroad-mapped trails to the loading yards. Water-holes and pastures are spotted on the maps.

¶ Melvin E. Barron, forest supervisor of the Modoc National Forest in California, resigned to accept a position with the Goose Lake Box Co., Reno, Nev. Until a successor is named, the forest will be administered by Assistant Forest Supervisor Hamilton K. Pyles of the Stanislaus forest.

¶ "Damfino" is the brand used by Russell Thorp, executive secretary and chief brand inspector of the Wyoming Growers Association. Cowboys, unable to describe the brand in the usual terminology, resorted to damfino. Thus 40 years ago it got its name. As nearly as can be described, the brand is an equality sign through which runs diagonally a stretched-out reverse S.

¶ The Oregon section of the PRODUCER

reports that the Island ranch, formerly headquarters in Oregon for the big Miller and Lux interests, has been sold to Henry Vogler of Echo, Ore. The property consists of about 17,000 acres . . . Also reported is the purchase of a ranch on the lower Imnaha by Jidge Tippet, of Asotin, Wash.

¶ H. L. Friday, formerly of Gateway, Ore., has sold out his cattle interests and is residing with Mrs. Friday at Redmond, Ore. . . . Another move reported in the Oregon Cattleman section concerns Allen Johnson, an old Miller and Lux cowboy, who sold his outfit to Jim Becker and now is living at Newport, Ore. . . . Ben Jordan & Sons have bought one of the largest ranches in the Oregon area, the former Ruffino Arrien property.

¶ The American Hereford Association has taken a gratified look at its records for the month of October and reported that breeders from 31 states have joined the group in a 30-day period. This is in line with a recent Hereford census revealing a 36.5 per cent increase of membership in five years.

¶ New appointments in the news include that of L. E. Davidson as livestock agent for the C. B. & Q. at Denver, Colo. He succeeds Tolford Wilson, who has been transferred. . . . Bryson Van Gundy, Sterling, Colo., stockman, has been named business manager of the Rocky Mountain Quarter-horse Association. . . . Tad Moses, formerly editor of the Cattleman, is now chief of the division of publications for the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. He takes over the duties vacated on Oct. 11 by the retirement of A. D. Jackson.

¶ Cudahy Packing Company announces the election of three members of the concern's staff to vice-presidencies and directorships. They are J. W. Christian, D. K. Sanders and Hugo Wesin—the latter previously mentioned in these columns upon taking charge of the beef and fresh meat division on the death of William Diesing. . . . Charles S. Hobbs, former rancher and teacher, has been selected to head the department of animal husbandry at South Dakota State College.

¶ James H. McCall, meat packer hailing from Chattanooga, Tenn., is the new chairman of the board of directors, American Meat Institute. He was elected to the post at the 40th annual meeting of the institute in Chicago, Oct. 30-31.

¶ The fact that sudden shock has turned

Why is your government asking you now to buy bonds? Here are three reasons: To care for the wounded and rehabilitate veterans; to bring the men home; to maintain armies of occupation.



AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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hair white has hitherto been confined to people but a development of the atomic bomb has shown this to be true of other forms of life also. Out in New Mexico where the atomic bomb was first tried out, cattle out on range on the nearby ranch of C. M. Harvey, have turned gray in the form of a foot-wide stripe down their backs.

¶ Fire of undetermined origin has destroyed the ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jordan (radio's Fibber McGee and Molly) near Bakersfield, Calif. It was situated on an Aberdeen-Angus breeding farm owned by the couple in the Sierra Nevada foothills.

¶ Bob Johnson of Fort Worth, Tex., has acquired 107 sections of Colorado grassland—42,000 acres of it by outright purchase from the Hatchett Cattle Co., Pueblo, and the remainder by lease from the state; another transfer announcement concerns the buying of the 130,000-acre Drinkard & Emmert ranch, also in Colorado, by Oscar Appelt, San Angelo and Sonora, Tex. Mr. Appelt, in turn, sold his Texas holdings to Don J. Harrison of Houston.

¶ Approximately 35 4-H and FFA calves were shown at the Junior Show, an annual event, which was held on the streets of Cody, Wyo., on the morning of Nov. 1. Calves shown were bred and fed in Park County. Neil Harrison, a 4-H boy of Powell, won first and \$50 prize money on his steer "Jumbo." . . . Twenty-two 4-H calves were exhibited from Park County and one 4-H calf from Sheridan County in the regional Junior Show at Billings on Nov. 2.

¶ Involved in a recent sale was a 10,000-acre cattle ranch near Raton, N. M., owned by Claude Keeton of Lubbock, Tex. The buyer: Holland Duell of Raton. . . . The Nan, or Yar Bar Ranch, near Deming, N. M., has been sold by Fred Barton to W. C. Greene of Cananea, Mex. The property contains

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Controversies will probably always rage (very mildly, to be sure!) on the merits of the various cattle breeds. Such a one recently occurred in Arizona and has been reported in the News Letter of that state association. A. F. Noland of Portal, Ariz., asserts that his crossbred Brahma calves, for instance, are always fat, free from pink eye and ticks, easy to handle, and smart. His contention is that they also butcher out to a higher percentage and yield tenderer meat.

Homer Smith of Cave Creek, on the other hand, says that although he likes Brahma cattle and has just bought some fine new purebred calves, he doesn't think they're actually any tougher than other types. In his opinion, "the Hereford can beat them when it comes to going on short feed and doing well."

RECONVERSION

The cook-shack is henceforth a "galley,"

The bunk-house floor is a "deck;"
For the sailor boy pride of the O Bar O
Is home from his sea-goin' trek.

—HOWARD HAYNES.

100,000 acres, all under fence. . . . When President R. W. Spratt of the Wyoming state fish and game commission recently purchased a large ranch from Van Okie, the town of Lost Cabin—complete with buildings, post office, store, homes, etc.—was included. The seller's father, the late J. B. Okie, established the frontier town in 1886.

¶ From New Mexico comes announcement of the sale by Sellman Brothers, Los Lunas, of their Hereford breeding and alfalfa farm near Albuquerque to L. E. and Wm. Cornelius, father-and-son businessmen from St. Louis, Mo.

¶ George Cross, rancher of Fremont County, Wyo., was recently quoted in a press interview in connection with the government's desire for grazing decreases: "We are still fighting any additional cut, and I believe we have a good chance to head them off. Our ranges aren't over-stocked and I believe we made that point pretty clear on a recent tour of the area that we made with government representatives."

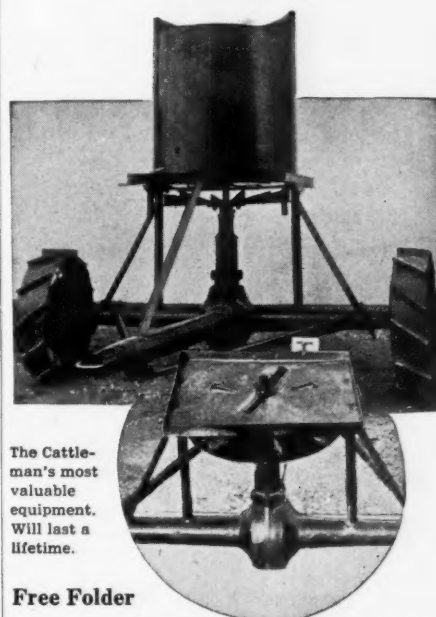
¶ A widely known breeder of registered and grade cattle, Fred C. DeBerard of Kremmling, Colo., on Oct. 29 sold a shipment of 32 dry cows averaging 1,238 pounds at \$15, in Chicago. This is expected to stand as the season's record for western cows on the Chicago market.

¶ A pen of five Herefords sold by J. F. Breda of Grand, Colo., at 28½ cents a pound on Oct. 30 topped the sale in Omaha's first annual feeder calf event. Second high group, at 27 cents, came from veteran Hereford exhibitor Dan D. Casement of Manhattan, Kan.

¶ Top selling animal at the Illinois State Shorthorn Breeders Sale on Nov. 8 at Urbana, Ill., was "Curtiss Candy Victor" owned by Curtiss Candy Company farms. He went to Dr. Biggs, Evansville, Ind., for \$1,050.

¶ The shifting of many range cattle growers from the cow-and-calf basis to the holding of more yearlings and two-year-olds, and the running of fewer cows during the war, are attributed in a newspaper report, to two factors by Irwin Adamson, president of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association: "a desire to produce more beef and to ease the help load—and both those things are still necessary." For those reasons, Mr. Adamson believes, "it probably will take more than one year of premium calf prices to start the trend back to cows and calves, though if feeders want calves badly enough to pay a profitable premium for them they'll get them."

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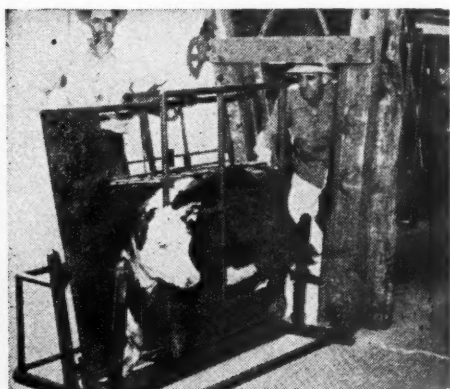
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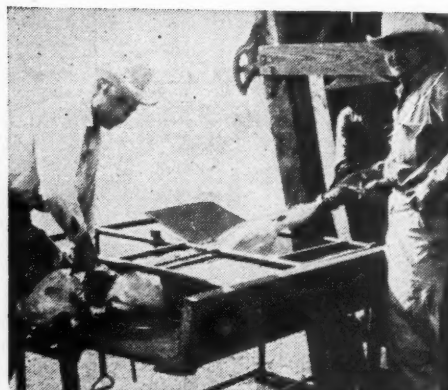
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Specify which side of calf you brand



(Continued from Page 4)

union laboring men? I think it is time for stockmen to call a halt. They have taken it on the chin long enough to develop a little stubbornness. Advancing wages of the industrial union men will not only make it necessary for stockmen to pay more for what they buy but it will automatically raise the cost of ranch labor. New York papers are advertising best cuts of beef for around 39 cents a pound. There is certainly nothing prohibitive in that retail price.—F. H. SINCLAIR, Sheridan, Wyo.

THANKS

For years I have been an enthusiastic reader of your PRODUCER. I think you folks do a wonderful job in selection of material that is of interest to livestock people.—F. L. PARSONS, Agricultural Economist, Federal Reserve Bank, Minneapolis.

WESTERN LIVESTOCK AND RANGE REPORT

According to the Nov. 1 report issued by the BAE at Denver, the western range country had a good to very good supply of range feed except in parts of the Southwest and local areas of the Northwest. Range feed cured late and with favorable weather provided good grazing during October. Livestock had made good gains and was going into the winter in good condition, except in local southwestern areas.

Ranges and pastures of the West generally were carrying a good crop of well cured feed except in local areas where dry conditions prevailed during the growing season. Range feeds in the North matured and cured late.

Cattle continued in good to very good condition, with favorable grazing conditions during October; they were moving to market in good flesh and generally showed good weights except in parts of the Southwest that were dry. Cattle marketings were heavy during October, with a relatively large movement to California, and the movement of calves was also large. Winter range feeds for cattle were generally good; hay and other feeds were generally ample except for local areas; but the supply of protein concentrates was said to be very short.

Sheep were going into the winter in generally good condition. Desert winter sheep ranges in the North generally had a good supply of feed. October movement of lambs from the North was heavy, with the bulk of feeder lambs covered by earlier contracts. The marketing of old ewes continued heavy, with only a limited holding of ewe lambs.

BACK IN THE SADDLE

Just returned home after 28 months in the Southwest Pacific and am glad to be a civilian again. Range conditions are excellent in this section. Livestock is in good shape and a good crop of calves is being delivered now. We are weaning an outstanding bunch of Quarter-Horse colts and fillies and will have a good offering this year.—DR. D. B. SPROTT, Bell County, Tex.

FARM HELP PROBLEM UNSOLVED

The hired help problem is getting worse and worse. The draft board is trying to get what few men there are that have been deferred. They claim the defense workers that have been laid off and returning soldiers will take their places, but to date I have seen no defense workers coming out to farms and ranches and taking jobs, and don't believe they will for a while. Farmers cannot begin to compete with the war plants in wages. If they would only stop drafting the 18-year-olds it would help a lot. Old men and teen-age boys have been doing the bulk of the work around here.—F. J. ACHTEN, Nemaha County, Kan.

WANTS TO SHARE IT

I shall appreciate it very much if you will please send me at your earliest convenience a copy of the November PRODUCER. I like this number so well, and want to send one to Europe.—MRS. E. T. SANDMEYER, Twin Falls County, Ida.

WHO HAS THE ANSWER?

We have had an unusually heavy rainfall all through the summer and early fall, with high water preceding that, so that we have had several hundred acres of pasture land under water. Our cattle do not look as good as usual, due to the watery grass. Farm labor continues to be very serious. Houses, barns and fences are rotting and falling down. Jack-leg carpenters in some places are asking \$10 per day to repair fences. We are hoping for the best and expecting the worst. What we cannot understand is: is the raising of prices in anything but labor inflationary? Would like to have this explained.—W. KADER COCKE, Terrebonne County, La.

LOTS OF SNOW

We have had a good cover of snow, and cattle have to be fed as there is too

OLD CARS LEAVING THE ROAD

Highway Highlights, organ for the National Highway Users Conference, says the first report of the kind made since the start of the war estimates that from July 1, 1941, to July 1, 1944, 3,585,089 passenger automobiles have disappeared from the highways—3,365 per day.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

much snow for cattle to rustle. The late ones have good flesh and are going into winter in good shape.—LEONARD OSTROM, McHenry County, N. D.

RAINS HELP WEST COASTERS

The cattle in this section have all been moved down from the High Sierra summer range to the Owens Valley winter range and they are in excellent condition. Hard rains of waterspout proportions in certain districts between Owens Valley and Mojave did considerable damage to the Los Angeles aqueduct, state highways and county roads, with a number of casualties to civilians during October, but the rains improved range conditions to a great extent, with new grass springing up over the entire area to make the outlook for the coming winter very encouraging—P. E. RITCH, Inyo County, Calif.

A GOOD WORD PICTURE

I have had a busy summer and fall and am just now getting some leisure. We have had a fine season up this way and prices are crazy for anything that can walk. So much soft corn has no doubt been a strong factor.—JACK NASON, Lawrence County, S. D.

NOT SO GOOD

Country drier and feed shorter than they've been in years. Summer rains practically missed my range.—FRED J. FRITZ, Greenlee County, Ariz.

The PRODUCER is just a swell magazine. I have read several copies, but the point is that I just can't refuse subscribing to it.—MARK E. HINDERER, Douglas County, Wash.

Though we had but two months this year without a frost, we harvested excellent crops of barley, oats and hay. Stock is in fine condition and should winter well. Success to the PRODUCER. I enjoy it very much.—MRS. LILIA A. MORAN, Crook County, Wyo.

SOME FOREST FIRE FIGURES

For the 1945 season ending Oct. 31, a total of 285 fires burned over 664 acres of private and publicly owned land in the national forests of Colorado, South Dakota and Wyoming (east of the Continental Divide). Of these, 117, or 41 per cent, were man-caused. Wyoming's low record of 33 fires, which burned over 91 acres, is still outstanding in the region. Only four man-caused fires were reported.

The Eggsperts Eggsplain

Some OPA experts recently defined, for the edification of the poultry trade, the difference between a chicken and a hen. According to them, after a chicken lays an egg it's no longer a chicken—it's a hen. Now the market editor of one of the trade journals want to know, What is a rooster?

FOOD FACTS RELEASED ON THREE ALLIED NATIONS

With the cessation of hostilities in all theatres of war, the Combined Food Board takes opportunity to review the wartime food experiences of the civilian populations of the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. —The report declares that "regarded solely from the nutritional point of view, food supplies available to civilians of all three countries show certain improvement since 1939." Furthermore, rationing, larger earnings and controlled prices have led to a more uniform distribution of supplies among the civilian population than was the case before the war. Generally speaking, the three countries maintained a standard of diet sufficient to ensure health and morale through the war years, although some changes did develop in the food situation of the three nations.

In the United Kingdom, for instance, importing and shipping difficulties tended to reduce supplies of meat, fish, eggs, fats, sugar and fruit—with proportionate gradual increases in consumption of grain products, potatoes, vegetables and milk, to form substantial, but considerably plainer, diets.

In the U. S. and Canada reductions were reflected in imported foods like sugar, fats, some fruits and, for a time, coffee. Military and export requirements by 1944 had served to bring civilian consumption of fats, for example, to a level 10-15 per cent below 1941. Most other food supplies, however, were larger in 1944 than in 1941.

QUIT YOUR SKIDDING



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BUY VICTORY BONDS

CALENDAR

December 1-7 — Great Western Livestock Show, Los Angeles, Cal.

December 2-6—National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, Ill.

December 3-5—International Congress, American Shorthorn Breeders' Assn., Chicago, Ill.

December 10-11—Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Assn., annual convention, San Antonio.

December 14-15 California Cattlemen's Assn. convention, San Francisco.

December 17-18—Executive board of New Mexico Cattle Growers Association, quarterly meeting, Raton.

January 10-12, 1946—AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONVENTION, DENVER, COLO.

January 11-19 — National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.

January 13—State Forest Advisory Boards for Cattle and Sheep, meeting at Denver, Colo.

January 14—Midwinter meeting, Colorado Stock Growers and Feeders Assn., Denver, Colo.

January 15—Meeting of board of directors, Colorado Wool Growers Assn., Denver, Colo.

February 1-2—National Polled Shorthorn Congress, Lincoln, Neb.

February 5-6—Annual convention, New Mexico Wool Growers Assn., Albuquerque.

February 14-15—Nevada Hereford Assn. sale, Reno.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

	Nov. 19, 1945	Nov. 15, 1944
Steers—Choice.....	\$17.25-18.00	\$17.00-18.50
Steers—Good.....	14.75-17.50	14.75-17.50
Steers—Medium.....	12.00-15.75	11.25-14.75
Vealers—Good-Ch.....	14.00-15.50	14.50-15.50
Calves—Good-Ch.....	11.50-13.00	11.50-13.00
F. & S. Strs.—Gd.-Ch.....	12.75-15.25	12.00-14.25
F. & S. Strs.—Cm.-M.....	9.50-13.00	9.25-12.00
Hogs—(200-240 lbs.).....	14.85 only	14.15-14.35
Lambs—Gd.-Ch.....	14.25-14.65	14.40-14.70
Ewes—Gd.-Ch.....	6.00-6.50	5.75-6.25

SOME RECENT SALES

HEREFORD	No.	Avg.	Comment.
Tri-State Futurity, Mont.....	90	\$ 732	5-bull top, \$2,955 average.
Northern Colo. Hereford Breeders.....	56	291	22 top bulls, \$9,140.
Western Slope Hereford Assn., Colo.....	127	319	
Northeastern Mont. Hereford Breeders.....	47	439	Top bull, \$1,800.
Fred Johnston & Son, Nebr.....	131	150	38 bulls average \$213.
Weber Dispersal, Ida.....	84	248	Total receipts, \$20,840.
P. I. Raben & Sons, Nebr.....	92	305	Top bull, \$1,000.
Cal.-Ore. Hereford Assn., Ore.....	152	384	\$61 above 1944 average.
Central Wyo. Hereford Sale.....	42	278	\$630 top.
Northwest Kans. Hereford Breeders.....	59	295	\$1,450 top.
Williams Hereford Auction, S. D.....	41	240	Total, \$9,805.
Cornhusker Hereford Futurity, Nebr.....	108	603	\$7,000 for top.
Sunshine Futurity, S. D.....	44	580	\$4,250 on champ bull.
Woody Hereford Farm, Kan.....	50	580	\$854 average for 10 bulls.
CK Ranch, Kan.....	60	599	\$3,000 top bull; \$2,000 top female.
Etnyre Hereford Farm, Ill.....	68	318	Top female, \$1,000.
POLLED HEREFORDS			
Ruffel & Sons, Kan.....	45	589	\$2,000 top.
ANGUS			
Scovern & Stewart, Mo.....	92	391	\$500 female top.
Michigan Angus Assn.....	48	549	\$2,500 top heifer.
Western Ill. Angus Sale.....	58	355	\$1,325 for top bull.
North Rocky Mtn. Angus Breeders, Mont.....	75	381	\$1,125 top.
Pac. Coast Angus Breeders, Ida.....	46	363	\$1,000 for top bull.
SHORTHORN			
Retzlaff Sale, Nebr.....	51	302	\$1,000 top.
POLLED SHORTHORN			
Strowan Farms, Ohio.....	462	\$2,500 top.	
Boyle-Busch, Ill.....	350	\$2,000 top.	

THE CHICAGO SHOW

For the fourth and last year, the Chicago Market Fat Stock and Carlot Competition is serving as the wartime substitute for the International Live Stock Exposition on Dec. 1-6. Stockmen and farm youths from 15 states and Canada have made entries, and it is reported that the junior classes this year will be the largest ever seen at a Chicago show. In the auction sales to be held the last two days of the event, meat animals on exhibit which are owned by farm youngsters will be permitted to sell above OPA live animal ceilings.

FLORIDA DDT TEST

Not a sick animal in 30,000 cattle which received preventive treatments with DDT against horn-flies is reported to Central Florida Cattlemen's Association by W. G. Bruce, USDA entomologist at Savannah. Hornflies were fully controlled by use of 2½ per cent water dispersible spray of DDT and barns sprayed with DDT gave fine results. He claims that two months after treating the barns very few flies were seen; that treated cattle will average a gain of 40 pounds per month over untreated fly-ridden ones.

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